

**king
get
ms**

A black and white portrait of actor Will Smith, smiling and wearing a dark sweater over a light-colored collared shirt. The image is partially cut off on the right side.

Blue Jays' Carlos Delgado

50¢

Commission calls for new intelligence command **Page 9**

BRANDON R. HOLGERSEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Welcomed exchange

Servicemembers participating in the Welcome Marine Program gather with Gen Nakatani, the former secretary-general of the Japanese Defense Agency, after climbing Mount Fuji on Sunday. The program, an annual trip sponsored by a philanthropic group from Tokyo called U.S.-Japan LINK, gives U.S. troops a chance to take in mainland Japanese culture.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

R.I. nightclub fire: More than 200 survivors of last year's Rhode Island nightclub fire and relatives of those killed sued the state, club owners and a former band tour manager Thursday, marking the largest wave of plaintiffs to file suit over the deadly blaze.

Chicken abuse: Eleven workers from a poultry processing plant have been fired and fast-food giant KFC has halted purchases from the facility following the release of a secretly shot video showing employees kicking and stomping live chickens.

Pilgrim's Pride, among the largest poultry producers in the United States and Mexico, terminated three managers and eight hourly workers at its plant in Moorefield, W.Va. The company said it was continuing an investigation.

Louima lawyers: A federal magistrate in Brooklyn, N.Y., recommended that one of Abner Louima's original lawyers be denied any share in nearly \$3 million in legal fees that resulted from Louima's police brutality case.

The lawyer, Brian Figeoux, has argued that he and the other members of Louima's first legal team should be entitled to a share in the legal fees because they initially helped bring the case into the public eye.

Drowned children case: Andrea Yates, serving a life sentence for drowning her children in a bathtub, asked her husband why he didn't bring them to visit her in prison last weekend, her attorney said.

Andrea Yates was transferred from the prison near Kusk, Texas, to a Galveston hospital Monday after refusing food and losing more than 20 pounds.

Gotti indictment: A federal racketeering indictment unseated Thursday charges the jailed son of late Gambino family boss John Gotti with the 1992 kidnapping and attempted murder of Guardian Angels founder Curtis Silva, along with two other murder conspiracies and various other charges.

John A. "Junior" Gotti, who was scheduled to leave prison in two months after serving time on a 1999 racketeering conviction, was charged in the new indictment with three other alleged members of the Gambino family.

Drunken pilot charges: Florida prosecutors can pursue charges against two fired America West pilots accused of being drunk in the cockpit, a federal appeals court ruled



MARK RANKIN/Stars and Stripes

Hospital helper: Marine Lance Cpl. Kyle Cacich from Camp Hansen, a volunteer at the Children's Waiting Room, helps Hanna Rad, 8, with building blocks. The free day-care center at Camp Lester Naval Hospital is sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA and offers day care for children of parents or siblings who have medical appointments at the hospital. The center is open from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Wednesday

A federal judge previously ruled that the state did not have jurisdiction in the case, but a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta reversed that decision.

Sentencing guidelines: Asserting that a Supreme Court decision last month had created "a wave of instability in the federal sentencing system," the Justice Department on Wednesday asked the court to review as soon as possible two federal cases that call into question sentencing guidelines.

World

Madrid death toll: The official death toll in the Madrid, Spain, train bombings climbed to 191 after the Interior Ministry added an infant whose mother was injured in the attack while pregnant with the child.

The infant died May 10, two days after he was born. His family said the child died because of injuries his pregnant mother suffered in the March 11 bombings.

Also, the official tally of wounded passen-

gers and bystanders is about 1,600, the official count. Previous tallies exceeded 2,000.

Saudi amnesty: A monthlong amnesty offered by Saudi King Fahd to militants who turn themselves in has failed to bring in hardcore militants responsible for the killings of scores of Saudis and foreigners in waves of attacks that began in May 2003.

Saudi officials, however, may have gleaned important information from the militants who have turned themselves in, and the officials stress that they have not let up on the hunt for those who remain at large.

Taiwan president shooting: Police showed blurry videotape footage of a middle-aged man who was the latest suspect Thursday in the mysterious March 19 shooting that lightly injured the Taiwanese president and his running mate one day before they were narrowly re-elected.

The man was standing on the side of the street in the "hot zone" or the spot where police believe President Chen Shui-bian was shot, investigator Wang Wen-chung said at a news conference.

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AP photos

Above: Sailors of the USS Kitty Hawk walk in front of the First Navy Jack on the hanger deck of the aircraft carrier last week. Left: Kitty Hawk commander Capt. Thomas Parker admires photos of his 32 predecessors on a wall outside his office under the ship's flight deck. The history of the Kitty Hawk, which went into service in 1961, stretches from the 1962 Cuban missile crisis to the war in Iraq today.

Kitty Hawk not sailing into the sunset yet

BY ERIC TALMADGE
The Associated Press

ABOARD THE USS KITTY HAWK — In his office under the flight deck of the Japan-based USS Kitty Hawk, Capt. Thomas Parker points at a wall covered by the photos of his 32 predecessors. The first one took command before the 1962 Cuban missile crisis; in the middle are the Vietnam-era captains.

You have to turn a corner down the hall to get to Parker's own picture.

After 43 years and assignments in just about every conflict from Vietnam to Iraq, the Navy's oldest active-duty warship is what a charitable sailor would call "mature." But even though the carrier fleet went nuclear long ago, officials aren't quite ready to let the diesel-powered USS Kitty Hawk sail off into the sunset.

"The ship is in superb mechanical condition," Parker, the air-

43-year-old ship's career prolonged until at least 2008

craft carrier's commanding officer, said in an interview. "The ship could continue for however long it's necessary for us to be here."

Although its sister ship, the USS Constellation, was retired last summer, officials say they plan to squeeze at least another four years out of the Kitty Hawk — a decision reflecting the Navy's need for battle-ready ships in an increasingly unpredictable world. Underscoring that concern, the Kitty Hawk left port this week to join the "Summer Pulse 2004" exercises, in which seven U.S. carriers and their battle groups will be deployed worldwide to demonstrate the Navy's ability to respond to numerous, simultaneous crises.

Rear Adm. James Kelly, commander of the Kitty Hawk battle group, said that while the ship could be retained for longer, it is set to be retired largely because

of the cost of keeping it going. It costs about \$1.2 million a day to run the Kitty Hawk at sea.

"We use about 1,000 barrels of fuel a day," Kelly said. "Our fuel costs are pretty heavy."

Kelly said the fuel costs of newer ships are lower because they are nuclear powered, but didn't give specifics.

The Kitty Hawk and the Constellation went into service at the New York Naval Yard in 1961. The San Diego-based Constellation, which launched 1,500 missions from its decks during the Iraq war, was decommissioned Aug. 7 last year and replaced by the USS Ronald Reagan.

That was a switch; the Reagan was initially supposed to replace the older Kitty Hawk. But now the Kitty Hawk will stay in service until at least 2008, when the next new carrier, the George H.W. Bush, is to replace it.

The carrier and eight other Seventh Fleet vessels operate out of Yokosuka — the only ships in the Navy whose home ports are outside the United States, although for political reasons officials prefer to say they are "permanently forward-deployed."

The Seventh Fleet of carrier, fleet command ship, three cruisers, three destroyers and two frigates is at sea about half the year and has about 14,000 sailors deployed to Japan, along with nearly 10,000 family members. Submarines frequently transit through.

Unlike the crowded island of Okinawa — where most of the U.S. troops in Japan are based and friction is endemic — there is relatively little tension in Yokosuka.

Part of the reason is that Yokosuka has long been a military port. It served as a major Japa-

nese naval base before and during World War II and still harbors Japanese warships and submarines.

"We have a different perspective than Okinawa. We understand that it is important for Japan to have the U.S. military here," said Nagatoshi Esashi, a city official specializing in base relations. "We didn't ask for them to be here. If possible, it would be desirable for the land used by the troops to be returned. But we aren't pushing for that."

Officials are concerned, however, about what will happen once the Kitty Hawk is gone.

The Kitty Hawk and the USS John F. Kennedy, commissioned in 1964, are the only diesel-fueled carriers left in service, meaning the Kitty Hawk is likely to be replaced by a nuclear-powered vessel. Yokosuka residents fear radioactivity leaks, while some Japanese anti-war groups object to what they see as a broadening of the U.S. forces strike capabilities.



PHOTOS BY LAMEL J. HINTON/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Above: Petty Officer 1st Class Jamie J. Andrews checks connections Wednesday on the Local Area Network cables aboard the USS Kitty Hawk. The world's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier is proving its mettle as it joins six other carrier strike groups in Summer Pulse 2004, an exercise to demonstrate the Navy's readiness. Left: Fireman Manuel Garciascano, an interior communications technician, repairs a sound-powered telephone aboard the ship.

Air Force moves to counter rise in suicides

Two fold initiative to include renewed look at prevention programs, search for reasons

BY LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Alarmed by a sudden uptick in suicides, Air Force officials are engaging in a two-fold campaign to determine the reasons behind the increase and re-invigorate the service's suicide prevention programs.

Just halfway through the calendar year, there already have been 27 suicides in the active Air Force, or 13 per 100,000.

While that rate is in line with the other services, it is a big change for the Air Force, which even since inaugurating a model suicide awareness initiative in 1997 has enjoyed rates that are typically 25 percent lower than any of its sister services, according to Lt. Col. Rick Camber, the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program director.

According to service statistics, the Navy and Army suicide rate

in recent years has been about 11 per 100,000 servicemembers, while the Marine Corps is a bit higher, around 13 per 100,000.

Those three services are in line with suicide rates in the civilian world, which also occur at a rate of 11 to 12 per 100,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In the seven years since the Air Force has had a major prevention program in place, the service's suicide rate has averaged about 9.3 per 100,000, Camber told Stars and Stripes in a Tuesday telephone interview.

But beginning last fall, after three "normal" quarters averaging two or three suicides per month, something began to change for the Air Force.

In October, five airmen killed themselves. In November, the number of suicides rose to six.

Air Force officials immediately went on the alert.

"We said, is this the start of a

trend?" Camper said. "It was difficult to tell," because overall numbers of suicides are so low when compared to a total population, such as the active Air Force's 373,000 airmen.

"One or two [additional deaths] can make a big difference" statistically, Camper said. "That's why the epidemiological folk talk about trends in five-year cycles."

Nevertheless, "in the Air Force, we can't afford to wait for five years before we decide we have a problem, and that we need to do something about it," Camper said. "It's really frustrating for the Air Force, because we know we can make a difference" in reducing such deaths, Camper said.

The Air Force's new anti-suicide efforts includes two phases.

First, officials are working to re-invigorate their Suicide Prevention Program.

"It's hard to maintain a successful program, because people habituate — they get used to it and

stop paying attention," Camper said. "So we are blanketing" Air Force leaders, airmen, and family groups with anti-suicide efforts.

Since November, eight service-wide messages and several suicide prevention memos have gone out from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper and other senior leaders, Camper said.

Officials have also widely distributed two CD-ROM programs, "Leader's Guide for Managing Personnel in Distress," and a "Community, Leadership, and Violence Awareness Brief," to all major Air Force Commands and bases, he said.

A second, and more "daunting" task is to try and determine why more airmen are taking their own lives this year, Camper said.

The strains prompted by the war on terrorism are a possible culprit, but none of the Air Force's suicides this year or last have involved airmen deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, or even air-

men who recently returned, Camper said.

Still, "overall, demands on the military have increased, and not just for the deployed people," Camper said.

The additional work and faster pace "lends an ingredient of stress that is certainly not [a suicide] trigger, but may be a piece" of the puzzle, he said.

In August, the Air Force will, for the first time, grant civilian suicide researchers from Rochester, Baylor University, and Catholic University access to the personnel files of all airmen who have taken their lives in the past several years, Camper said.

The detailed information in the files — "more data than anyone has ever had access to for this kind of project," Camper said — should help officials understand who is most vulnerable to suicide, and why some airmen take that ultimate, and ultimately tragic, step.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgessl@stripes.osd.mil

Visiting Marine Program seeks to better relations

BY JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Forty servicemembers from Okinawa served as goodwill ambassadors this week to learn about mainland Japan and to show the Japanese people that not all military guys from Okinawa are bad.

For the ninth annual Welcome Marine Program, 20 Marines, 10 airmen, five soldiers and five sailors visited historical sites, factories and people's homes to experience a slice of Japanese culture and life.

They met politicians and diplomats, including U.S. Ambassador to Japan Howard Baker, Marine Forces Pacific Commander Lt. Gen. Wallace Gregson and U.S. Forces Japan Commander Lt. Gen. Thomas Waskow.

Japanese political journalist Reiko Tamura started the program nine years ago, after two Marines and a sailor raped a 12-year-old girl on Okinawa. The crime launched a wave of resentment and antagonism toward servicemembers, especially Marines, on the island.

After speaking with Marines on Okinawa who pledged to "shed their blood" for the United States alliance if necessary, Tamura saw a need to show opinion leaders, politicians and the business community in Japan that servicemembers deserve support.

"To show there are wonderful servicemembers," she said during an interpreter.

By inviting Marines to Tokyo — the political and commercial hub of Japan — she could help counter the rising resentment and allow the servicemembers a chance to experience Japanese culture.

The first year, only Marines were invited, but Tamura opened it to all services the year after and

added a Mount Fuji climb, one of the trip's highlights.

The participants favored the climb along with the cultural stops, including attending a Buddhist ceremony at a temple in Kamakura and a home visit with Japanese host families.

"I felt like it was an honor to be part of this," said Petty Officer 1st Class Jesus Vargas, a constructionman with Fleet Activity Okinawa, after the home visit.

During the visit, he and other servicemembers gave a short English lesson to children, toured a pickle factory owned by a host family and stayed at their house — experiencing Japanese customs such as sleeping on a futon and eating traditional foods.

"If I have a new troop (at Kadema), I'll definitely put him in for this because there's nothing like it," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Tommy Lucero from Kadema Air Base.

The trip also gave servicemembers a chance to meet and socialize with members of other services. Vargas and Lucero do similar jobs and live on the same air base but never would have had a chance to meet before. They intend to stay in touch when they return home. They also plan to share their experiences with others.

"We can come back and help others have a better understanding of the culture — why they do the things they do," Lucero said.

"I truly believe this program has a tremendous impact on not only us but the people we encounter back in Okinawa and the people we met here," Vargas said.

Tamura continues using Marines in the program's name, even though all services participate, because many Japanese people lump all Americans into one category and call them Marines. Especially if one commits a crime, she



PHOTO BY BRANDON R. HOLGERSEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Welcome Marine Program participant Staff Sgt. Claude G. Gillman takes a break from descending Mount Fuji on July 18. Gillman, a C-130 flight engineer with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, was one of the servicemembers taking part in the annual 10-day trip sponsored by the Tokyo-based philanthropic group US-Japan LINK. The program, intended to build better relations between U.S. military personnel and the Japanese, concluded on July 22.

noted. That isn't lost on participants, who were glad for a chance to challenge the stereotype.

"They needed to show the people that not all Marines are bad," said Lance Cpl. James Palmer, with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at Futenma Marine Corps Air Station, and the recipient of the 2004 Welcome Marine Program college scholarship.

Everyone the participants encountered showed them great respect, more than they'd receive at home, he said. "I felt very welcomed." The program stays afloat through Tamura's countless hours spent organizing and fund raising and contributing her own money

— she pays about \$20,000 of the estimated \$200,000 it costs a year to run the program.

She began a nonprofit group called US-Japan LINK and through it collects contributions from local businesses and politicians to help fund the rest.

Servicemembers are selected by their commanders. Those usually chosen are upstanding noncommissioned officers, along with one young servicemember awarded the scholarship.

A few years ago, the program caught the eye of President Bush, who sent Tamura several greetings and thanks for her support.

"I appreciate Reiko Tamura

and the organizers of the Welcome Marine Program for once again sharing Japan's rich heritage with our military personnel and enhancing mutual understanding between our two countries," the president wrote.

For many servicemembers, the trip is one of their only chances to see Japan beyond Okinawa. Palmer delayed returning to the United States with his unit, which left Okinawa recently, to complete the trip and receive his scholarship. "I would have given the scholarship back for the opportunity to come," he said. "It's not a vacation at all, but it was a great experience."

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U.S. Marines kill 25 insurgents in Ramadi

By PAUL GARWOOD

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. Marines killed 25 insurgents and captured 25 others during fierce fighting in Ramadi, the American military said Thursday. A decapitated body, meanwhile, was found on the banks of the Tigris River in northern Iraq.

The gruesome discovery was made Wednesday, the same day militants announced they had abducted three Kenyans, three Indians and an Egyptian.

The decapitated body, found Wednesday night on the banks of the Tigris in the town of Beiji, was clad in an orange prison-style jumpsuit that kidnappers have forced some of their captives to wear before beheading them. Beside the body, which was still unidentified, was a head in a sack. Beiji police official Taha Abdullah told The Associated Press.

Bulgarian officials were investigating whether the remains were those of a man from that country identified as Iraylo Kevop, 32, one of two Bulgarians who were kidnapped June 29 near the northern city of Mosul.

On Wednesday, a militant group calling itself "The Holders of the Black Banners" released a videotape of the seven hostages — all truck drivers for Kuwait &

Gulf Link Transport Co. The militant group said they would behead one hostage every 72 hours starting Saturday if their countries did not announce intentions to withdraw troops and citizens from Iraq.

Indian officials in Baghdad worked with Egypt and Kenya to free the captives, an Indian official said from New Delhi on condition of anonymity.

The daylong clashes in Ramadi began after insurgents detonated a roadside bomb near a Marine convoy Wednesday afternoon, and as many as 10 Iraqi fighters then attacked with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades.

That skirmish led to ensuing engagements pitting members of the 1st Brigade Combat team against an estimated 75-100 insurgents, the Marines' statement said. American ground forces backed by U.S. warplanes clashed with insurgents for hours, and the Marines safely detonated two homemade bombs, including one in a car.

Twenty-five insurgents died in the fighting and another 17 were wounded, the statement said.

Marines spokesman Lt. Col. T.V. Johnson said the situation in Ramadi was "relatively quiet" Thursday and "Marines continue to operate from bases within the



U.S. Army soldiers patrol in an armored vehicle near Haifa Street in Baghdad on Thursday. In Ramadi, U.S. Marines killed 25 insurgents during daylong clashes.

city, as they have since arriving early this year."

But Ramadi shopkeepers shuttered their stores Thursday, apparently in fear of more clashes.

Meanwhile, in the southeastern

Baghdad suburb of Zayouna, a roadside bomb exploded as a civilian minibus passed it Thursday, killing two people and injuring two others, said police Col. Abdel Karim.

In the northern city of Kirkuk, authorities said assailants attacked police forces in two separate incidents, killing one policeman and seriously injuring another.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, 895 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 661 died as a result of hostile action and 234 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 757 U.S. servicemembers have died — 552 as a result of hostile action and 205 of non-hostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command:

■ A 1st Infantry Division Soldier was killed by an explosive early Wednesday near Duliyah, Iraq.

The latest identifications reported by the Department of Defense:

■ Marine Staff Sgt. Michael J. Clark, 29, Leesburg, Fla.; killed Tuesday in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to Combat Service Support Battalion 1, Combat Service Support Group 11, 1st Force Service Support Group, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Cpl. Todd J. Godwin, 21, Zanesville, Ohio; died Tuesday of injuries received in a hostile attack in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

■ Killed Monday in a mortar attack on their base in Iraq; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y.: Army Sgt. Charles C. Persing, 20, Albany, La., and Army Sgt. Dale T. Lloyd, 22, Watsonville, Pa.

Tens of thousands fleeing Samarra

Many fear battle about to begin between U.S. military, heavily armed militants

By DOUG STURCK

The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — Tens of thousands of people have fled Samarra, about 60 miles north of Baghdad, in recent weeks, expecting a showdown between U.S. troops and heavily armed groups within the city, according to U.S. and Iraqi sources.

Residents of the city said guerrillas told people to leave neighborhoods in anticipation of a larger battle after a clash on Tuesday in which U.S. warplanes bombed two houses, killing at least four people, according to military authorities.

"I will not go back to Samarra," said Mohammed Mohammed, 37. He brought his extended family of more than 70 brothers, cousins and children to Baghdad this week because of the dangers. "We expect the resistance will be very strong when the Americans go in. And the Americans have no mercy."

Samarra is now controlled by a volatile mix of tribes and gangs, some split along religious lines, and supporters of ousted president Saddam Hussein, according to interviews with numerous Samarra residents who have fled to Baghdad. On July 8, some of those groups launched an attack in which a car bombing was followed by a fierce volley of mortar fire against U.S. soldiers and an Iraqi National Guardman, and injuring 40.

Even before that, U.S. military authorities had been planning how to retake control of the city without a bloodbath. Officials said they determined not to let Samarra follow what they call the Fallujah model. U.S. forces made an agreement to stay outside Fallujah, a city west of

Baghdad, in order to end fierce clashes there during April.

The city is now under the control of insurgents.

"We're not going to make that pact," said Army Maj. Gen. John Batiste, commander of the First Infantry Division, which operates in the area. "Right now, it is a town where nobody is in charge. That, we will fix. At the end of the day, there will be a city under competent civil government."

U.S. military planners complained in private that Fallujah was a bad deal, allowing the city to become a rallying point and stronghold for guerrilla forces.

The U.S. military will try to mount a joint operation with Iraqi security forces, officials said. Under the plan, U.S. forces would likely seize Samarra in a powerful assault, and then have Iraqi National Guard or police patrol the city.

"It's not a situation that will necessarily evolve into what we saw in Fallujah in April," said Brig. Gen. Erv Lessel, the Army's deputy operations chief in Iraq. "We learned then how important it is to make sure we have capable Iraqi security forces in place to maintain security when the multinational forces withdraw from an area."

But formation of a competent and well-trained Iraqi force has taken more time than officials had hoped. Officials said they have been particularly difficult to mount a contingent willing to take on the challenges in Samarra. The mortar attack on July 8 was aimed at a compound used by U.S. and Iraqi National Guard troops. Since then, many of the guardsmen have quit, rather than participate in the fighting in Samarra, according to Mohammed.

"There's no National Guard. And the police in town do their patrols, but they take their orders from the mujaheddin," said Mohammed, who said he had been in Samarra on Tuesday.

"Right now, the mujaheddin and insurgents control everything," said Hassan, another Samarra resident who left the city with his family to move in with relatives in Baghdad. He refused to give his last name, fearing retribution.

Most of Samarra's 300,000 residents are Sunni Muslim, but the city also is home to two important Shiite shrines, and has a small minority of Kurds. Residents said relations with U.S. forces began to deteriorate after American troops fired on a wedding party last winter that was celebrating in a traditional way by shooting weapons into the air. The wedding party, members one of the larger extended clans in the city, vowed revenge. They have been joined by religious militants intent on waging a holy war, by former members of Iraq's disbanded Republican Guard who still sometimes wear their uniforms in the city, and an assortment of other tribes and groups willing to join the fight for sentiment or for money. Some of the fighters came from Fallujah, Mohammed and other residents said, and some came from outside the country.

The groups are threatening and killing anyone who they believe cooperates with U.S. authorities or even with the Iraqi government, the residents said.

For several weeks, Samarra residents have been slipping out of town. Many have houses or extended families in Baghdad, and have moved in. Some travel back and forth, depending on their reading of the dangers on a particular day.

Report: Ter for fight needs another \$12B

BY ALAN FRAM

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon will need an additional \$12.3 billion through September to pay for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and its worldwide effort against terrorism, congressional auditors estimate.

That is triple what Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, projected in April he would need to make it through September.

Lawmakers of both parties said at the time that his projection was too low, so the congressional projection issued Wednesday was no surprise.

Democrats quickly used it to criticize President Bush for underestimating the burden the wars — especially in Iraq — have thrust on taxpayers.

"He has grossly mismanaged the war on terrorism and the war in Iraq," said Mark Kirkich, deputy press secretary to Democratic presidential candidate Sen.

John Kerry, D-Mass.

Kirkich said the study "another example of how George W. Bush planned for best case scenarios and failed to prepare for the realities of war."

Rep. John Spratt, D-S.C., who requested the study, said it underlined "another in a long line of miscalculations" by Bush on Iraq.

At the White House, budget office spokesman Chad Kolton defended the report.

"When it comes to making decisions about resources for our men

and women in uniform, the only thing that matters is ensuring they have what they need to get the job done," Kolton said.

The report was written by the Government Accountability Office, Congress' investigative arm formerly called the General Accounting Office.

Its release came a day before Congress was expected to approve a \$417.5 billion defense bill for next year that includes \$25 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. That \$25

billion will be available when Bush signs the measure, but it is unclear that the administration will use any of that money until the fall.

After Congress provided \$87 billion last November for Iraq and Afghanistan, the White House began this year insisting it would need no extra money until next year. Under congressional pressure, it requested \$25 billion in May for use beginning next October, when the government's new budget year begins.

IG finds 94 cases of prisoner abuse

BY MATT KELLEY

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military has found 94 cases of confirmed or alleged abuse of prisoners by U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan since the fall of 2001, the Army's inspector general said Thursday in a long-awaited report.

Sen. John Warner, the Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who had been pressing for the results of the inspector general report for several weeks, called a last-minute hearing Thursday before Congress leaves for the rest of the summer Friday.

The number is significantly higher than all other previous estimates given by the Pentagon, which had refused until now to give a total number of abuse allegations.

The inspector general investigation, ordered Feb. 10 after the allegations of abuse at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq came to the attention of top Army officials in Washington, concluded that there were no systemic problems that contributed to the abuse. In some cases, the report found, the abuse was abetted or facilitated by officers not following proper procedures.

Most of the alleged abuses — 45 of the 94 — happened at the point where the detainee was captured.

tured, said Lt. Gen. Paul Mikolasek, the Army's inspector general. Of those 45 cases, 20 involved allegations of physical abuse and the rest were allegations of theft or other crimes, he said.

Twenty-one cases of alleged abuse happened at detention centers such as Abu Ghraib, Mikolasek said. Another 19 happened at collection points where prisoners are gathered between their capture and their transfer to long-term prisons.

Only eight cases happened during or surrounding interrogations, Mikolasek said.

In contrast to its own findings that there were no systemic problems, however, the Army report also cites a February report from the International Committee for the Red Cross that alleged that "methods of ill treatment" were "used in a systematic way" by the U.S. military in Iraq.

Seven members of the 372nd Military Police Company, an Army Reserve unit from Cresap, Md., were charged in the prisoner abuse scandal, which unfolded this past spring with the release of pictures of abuse and sexual humiliation of prisoners at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison.

Questions also arose about prisons in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the deaths of detainees, as well as whether abuse was part of interrogations.

The Army has not yet made the

U.S. received man from private prison

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. military acknowledged Thursday it held an Afghan man for a month after taking custody of him from three American counterterrorism vigilantes who have since been arrested on charges of torturing prisoners at a private jail they ran in the Afghan capital.

The American military has tried to distance itself from the group, led by a former American servicemember named Jonathan Idema, insisting they were freelancers working outside the law. But spokesman Maj. Jon Siepmann acknowledged that the military had received a detainee from Idema's group at Bagram Air Base, north of Kabul, on May 3.

Siepmann said Idema had appeared "questionable" the moment he presented the detainee, and that suspicion grew when, one month later, the man turned out not to be the top suspect that Idema had described.

"That doesn't mean at the time that we knew Mr. Idema's full track record or other things he was doing out there," Siepmann said. "This was a person who turned in a person who we believed was on our list of terrorists and we accepted him."

Siepmann declined to identify the detainee or the fugitive he was mistaken for.

He said it was unclear how Idema, who officials say had been posing as a U.S. special operations soldier, identified himself to soldiers at Bagram, or if he asked for anything in return for the detainee.

The U.S. government has offered rewards for the capture of a string of top fugitives, including a \$50 million bounty on al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

Siepmann said officials were looking into whether Idema had other contact with U.S.-led forces there, but insisted he was in Afghanistan "entirely of his own volition."



American Jonathan Idema, 48, charged with running his own private prison and torture chamber in Kabul, stands trial in the Afghan capital on Wednesday. Idema and two others, Edward Caraballo and Brett Bennett, were arrested July 5.

Officials in Washington have also denied the three were employed or sponsored by any arm of the U.S. government.

Idema said he was in daily telephone and e-mail contact with officials "at the highest level," including in Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's office.

"The American authorities absolutely condoned what we did. They absolutely supported what we did," he said. "We have extensive evidence of that."

A Pentagon official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was no evidence the men were in contact with the Defense Department.

entire report public but released parts during the public hearing.

The Army inspector general report, looking at the period from Oct. 1, 2001 through June 9 of this

year in Iraq and Afghanistan, is by far the most comprehensive view of the abuse that sent shock waves through both the Arab world and the United States.

And the report found that since the fall of 2001, the United States had held more than 50,000 prisoners in Afghanistan and Iraq, a number never before made public.

Saddam request filed

PARIS — Saddam Hussein's defense team asked the European Court of Human Rights to help grant it access to their client, a lawyer said Thursday.

Emmanuel Ludot, speaking on RTL radio, said the team wants to compel France to force Washington to follow Geneva Conventions requiring war prisoners to have access to defense counsel.

France, as a convention signatory, can be compelled to step in to force action by another signatory, including the United States, said Ludot, one of 21 lawyers who say they have been appointed by Saddam's wife, Sajida.

From The Associated Press

2,400 Marines pulling out of Taliban stronghold

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Some 2,400 U.S. Marines have pulled out of a Taliban stronghold in southern Afghanistan after killing more than 100 enemy fighters, their commander said Thursday.

The force, which lost just one soldier, has withdrawn to an American air base in the southern city of Kandahar and is preparing to leave the country, Col. Frank McKenzie said. The withdrawal has already been announced.

The Marines were returning to

American warships "to await further orders," military spokesman Rick Pelt said. He said there were no indications that the Marines would be redeployed in Iraq, but said he didn't know where the ships were.

The contingent, part of the special operations capable 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, deployed in late March in an attempt to drive militants from attacking preparations for historic elections.

But violence has continued and parliamentary elections have been shelved until April. A vote for president is set for Oct. 9,

more than three months later than originally scheduled.

Speaking to reporters in Kabul, McKenzie said he "would not challenge" reports that more than 100 enemy fighters were killed during the Marines' four-month deployment in Uruzgan, home of fugitive Taliban leader Mullahs Omar, and neighboring areas.

He declined to give an exact figure.

Cpl. Roland Payne, of Lacey, Wash., was killed May 7 during a nighttime firefight with Taliban insurgents. Eleven other Marines were injured in combat operations, often conducted joint-

ly with Afghan troops. None of the Afghans were killed, but about 15 were wounded, McKenzie said.

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Israel puts Gaza summit in doubt

BY RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Egypt has proposed a Mideast peace conference in October to coordinate Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Washington offered its support, officials said Thursday.

But the Palestinians are in political disarray and the plan suffered a setback when Israel ruled out their participation.

A conference could provide an opportunity to advance the U.S.-backed Mideast peace initiative known as the "road map." It might also allow Israel to climb down from its refusal to negotiate with the Palestinians over the Gaza pullout.

Israel insists the Palestinians are not reliable negotiating partners,

accusing them of doing nothing to stop violence against Israelis.

Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom said the Palestinians cannot take part in a peace conference until they fulfill Israeli conditions of reforming security forces and moving against militants.

The proposal for a peace conference comes against a backdrop of rising internal conflict among the Palestinians. In the past week, a wave of kidnappings, riots, resignations and legislative turmoil has placed Arafat in one of the toughest positions of his long career.

Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia has refused to rescind his resignation, charging that Yasser Arafat is monopolizing power. But a Palestinian legislator said Arafat might be willing now to cede control of security forces — a key demand from Israel, the United States and Qureia.

Japan is not disclosing test results for Jenkins

The Associated Press

TOKYO — The Japanese government will not publicly release the results of medical tests on an accused U.S. Army deserter, citing privacy concerns, a top official said Thursday.

Charles Jenkins, who is wanted by the United States for allegedly abandoning his Army platoon in 1965 and defecting to North Korea, is undergoing examinations this week at a Tokyo hospital.

The Japanese government has said Jenkins, who arrived in Japan on Sunday, is suffering from the aftereffects of abdominal surgery he had in North Korea, and other health problems.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said the government would not release details of Jenkins' health condition.

"Mr. Jenkins' checkup is still going on," Hosoda told reporters. "We will not specify the name of

his illness since it concerns his privacy, and we cannot discuss it."

Tokyo has urged the United States not to prosecute Jenkins, citing his poor health. Washington has insisted it will pursue a case against Jenkins, although it has delayed a request for custody of the North Carolina native while he undergoes tests.

Jenkins is married to a Japanese citizen, Hitomi Soga. The two met in North Korea after Soga was kidnapped by Northern agents and taken to the reclusive country in 1978.

Soga was released by North Korea in 2002 and returned to Japan, leaving behind Jenkins and their two daughters. It has been a top priority of the Japanese government to reunite the family.

The couple met in Jakarta, Indonesia, earlier this month, and Jenkins was persuaded to come to Japan for medical treatment, despite the possibility of U.S. prosecution for desertion.

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Monsoon floods begin to settle in South Asia

BY AJAI SINGH
The Associated Press

PATNA, India — Floodwaters that have claimed more than 600 lives across South Asia began receding Thursday as rains slowed in Nepal, eastern India and Bangladesh, but officials warned that an outbreak of waterborne diseases was still possible.

"Water levels are coming down in most rivers," said Upendra Sharma, a flood relief official in the eastern Indian state of Bihar, where floods triggered by annual monsoon rains have wreaked havoc for the past month.

"But receding waters also bring diseases. We are worried about a possible outbreak of diarrhea and cholera," Sharma said.

Stagnant water left behind after the worst flooding became breeding grounds for mosquitoes

and bacteria.

Five medical teams have been dispatched to the districts in Bihar worst hit by the monsoon deluge, which has claimed at least 631 lives across South Asia, he said.

Of those deaths, 356 have occurred in India, 168 were in Bangladesh, and 102 in Nepal. Five people have been killed in Pakistan.

The Flood Forecast and Warning Center in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, said flood waters receding in the country's northeast were streaming down to central and southern districts, swamping new areas.

Rain-swollen rivers crisscrossing the nation have inundated thousands of villages, stranding some 15 million people in their flooded homes for weeks. Dhaka's Inqilab newspaper reported that 28 more people, including children, died Wednesday in separate incidents of drowning.

"But receding waters also bring diseases. We are worried about a possible outbreak of diarrhea and cholera."

Upendra Sharma
Flood relief official



Two men support each other as they cross dangling railway tracks after its ground was washed away by floodwater at Mansi-Badla Ghat, in the eastern Indian state of Bihar, Wednesday. Some 535 people have been killed in South Asia by floods, electrocution and waterborne diseases since the rains began.

As the waters receded and communication channels reopened, officials said they received more death reports.

In Bihar, authorities received reports of 29 more deaths that had occurred across the state over the past two weeks, said Sharma.

Meanwhile, rescue workers found nine more bodies of people who drowned after their boat cap-

sized in a rain-swollen river Friday, said Anjani Kumar Singh, an official in northern Bihar, where the accident occurred. Eleven bodies had been found earlier.

The new deaths in Bihar brought the state's flood-related death toll to 203. In northeastern Assam state, the army was put on alert Wednesday after flood waters from the Brahmaputra River entered the outer suburbs of

Gauhati, the state capital. But the situation elsewhere in the state improved after rains stopped Wednesday.

At least 88 people have died in floods in Assam.

In mountainous Nepal, where monsoon rains routinely trigger landslides, officials said the improvement in weather conditions helped them get food, medicine and money to victims.

Tokyo surges on to remove bullet from girl's skull

Afghan teenager was hit by crossfire 8 years ago, has had headaches since

TOKYO — A 13-year-old Afghan girl arrived in Japan Thursday to undergo an operation to extract a bullet that was lodged in her head eight years ago during crossfire in her war-torn homeland.

Fatema Safar was hit by a stray bullet when she was 5 years old, amid fighting during Afghanistan's civil war. At the time, doctors administered first aid but did not remove a 3-centimeter bullet embedded near the top of her nose, said Tetsuyuki Yoshida, a spokesman with the Tokyo-based group, Aid for War Orphans in Asia, which brought her to Japan.

Safar, who has been suffering from chronic headaches presumably related to her injury, has been hospitalized at Tokyo's International Medical Center of Japan and was to start undergoing tests Friday, Yoshida said.

Lead doctor Tetsuo Hara and his colleagues plan to operate on her next Wednesday to remove the bullet, he said.

Safar, who is accompanied by her mother, Marzia, is expected to recover from the surgery within a month, but will stay in Japan until September with a Japanese family so that she can become acquainted with Japanese culture, Yoshida said.

"I am very grateful to the Japanese people for bringing me here," Yoshida quoted Safar as saying.

Aid for War Orphans in Asia assists children in Afghanistan and raised \$36,000 through donations to pay for Safar's treatment and stay in Japan.



Fatema Safar, 13, has had a bullet lodged near the top of her nose since she was hit during crossfire in her native Afghanistan eight years ago. Doctors in Tokyo plan to remove the bullet Wednesday.

U.N. helping Koreans lessen clashes at sea

BY JEREMY KIRK
Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — With the U.N. Command's watchdog participation, South and North Korea have taken small steps this spring and summer toward dealing directly with each other minus the usual international buffer.

The U.S.-led command, for instance, has not complained to Pyongyang about South Korea's assertions that North Korean boats recently entered South Korean territorial waters in the Yellow Sea, including at least twice this month.

The Korea Times reported Thursday that a North Korean ship Wednesday afternoon crossed the Northern Limit Line, an invisible zigzagging sea border established after the 1953 armistice agreement but which North Korea contests. The North Korean ship reportedly spent about two hours in South Korean waters but returned without incident, towed by another North Korean vessel.

And July 14, a South Korean navy vessel fired two warning shots at a North Korean vessel that crossed the sea boundary. Over a radio hot line, North Korea claimed it was a Chinese vessel, said Ministry of National Defense spokesman Brig. Gen. Nam Dae-yeon.

Local media reported Thursday that several South Korean military officers might be punished for failing to tell higher commanders North Korea responded on the hot line before the warning

shots were fired. The Koreans agreed last month to establish the hot line to exchange information on sea traffic near where the two navies have fired on each other in the past.

However, Barry Bashaw, U.N. Command public affairs officer, said the South Korean navy's response to that incident followed the established rules of engagement and required no additional response.

Similar incidents in the past, in contrast, have led to gunfire, fires and ships and loss of life. Conflicts typically have been more frequent in June, when fishing boats from both sides harvest lucrative blue crabs around the sea border.

In June 1999, a North Korean vessel was sunk after a 15-minute battle near the line, killing an estimated 30 North Koreans.

The sea boundary also was the scene of violence on June 29, 2002, when North Korea sank a South Korean patrol boat, killing five seamen and injuring 19.

Soon after the sinking, the U.N. Command invited North Korea to meet as provided by the armistice governing the cease-fire. The U.N. Command — nations that fought for South Korea during the Korean War — has a watchdog role, ensuring armistice rules are followed. But as illustrated by the response to this month's incidents, South Korea increasingly has had direct contact with the North Korean military in evolving efforts to reduce tension between the two armed forces.

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9/11 panel: U.S. didn't appreciate threat

By HOPE YEN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States could not protect its citizens from the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks because it failed to appreciate the threat posed by al-Qaida operatives who exploited that failure to carry out the deadliest assault ever on American soil, the chairman of the Sept. 11 commission said Thursday.

In issuing the panel's 567-page final report, commission chairman Tom Kean said none of the government's efforts to thwart a known threat from al-Qaida had "disturbed or even delayed" Osama bin Laden's plot.

"[They] penetrated the defenses of the most powerful nation in the world," Kean said. "They inflicted unbearable trauma on our people, and at the same time they turned the international order upside down."

While faulting institutional shortcomings, the report did not blame President Bush or former President Clinton for mistakes contributing to the 2001 attack.

Kean and commission vice chairman Lee Hamilton presented Bush with a copy of the report Thursday morning. Bush thanked them for a "really good job" and said the panel makes "very solid, sound recommendations about how to move forward."

"I assured them that where the

See related stories
on Page 11

government needs to act, we will," Bush said.

Surviving Sept. 11 victims and the families of the dead vowed to continue to chip away at the bureaucratic rigidity they said is really to blame.

The commission recommended creating a new intelligence center and high-level intelligence director to improve the nation's ability to disrupt future terrorist attacks. An intelligence-gathering center would bring a unified command to the more than one dozen agencies that now collect and analyze intelligence overseas and at home.

Running the center would be a new Senate-confirmed national intelligence director, reporting directly to the president at just below full Cabinet rank, with control over intelligence budgets and the ability to hire and fire deputies, including the CIA director and top intelligence officials at the FBI, Homeland Security Department and Defense Department.

The panel also determined the "most important failure" leading to the Sept. 11 attacks "was one of imagination. We do not believe leaders understood the gravity of the threat."

The commission identified nine

Operational failures cited by 9/11 panel

The Associated Press

The Sept. 11 commission's final report outlined this series of "operational failures" by the government that allowed the terrorists to carry out their plot.

■ Failing to include hijackers Khalid al-Mihdhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi on a watch list. The two were linked by the CIA to al-Qaida and were known to have entered the United States in the summer of 2001, but government agents lost track of them. The two would later board American Airlines Flight 77, which slammed into the Pentagon.

■ Not sharing information linking individuals in the October 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen to al-Mihdhar, who had contacts with a longtime FBI informant. The Cole attack killed 17 American sailors.

■ Not taking adequate steps in time to find al-Mihdhar and al-Hazmi in the United States.

"specific points of vulnerability" in the Sept. 11 plot that might have led to its disruption had the government been better organized and more watchful. Despite these opportunities, "we cannot know whether any single step or series of steps would have defeated" the 19 hijackers, the report concluded.

Hamilton, a former Democratic congressman, appealed for political unity at the heights of America's power. A "shift in mind-set and organization" within the U.S. intelligence apparatus and a smoother transition between presi-

dencies are also necessary, he said, to ensure "that this nation does not lower its guard every four or eight years."

The highly anticipated report provided new details on contacts between Iraq and al-Qaida, noting that Osama bin Laden began exploring a possible alliance in the early 1990s. Intelligence indicates that Iraq may have offered bin Laden safe haven, but he declined after apparently deciding that Afghanistan was a better location. The report says although there were some "friendly contacts" between Iraq and al-Qaida and a com-

mon hatred of the United States, none of these contacts "ever developed into a collaborative relationship" and that Iraq was not involved in the Sept. 11 attacks.

The panel said it did not find evidence that Iran had advanced knowledge of bin Laden's plans, or that Saudi Arabia's government had a role in the terror conspiracy.

But both Kean and Hamilton said the United States should look into the possibility of ties between Iran and al-Qaida. And Hamilton urged developing a U.S.-Saudi relationship that revolves around political, economic and educational reforms within the Saudi kingdom.

■ Not linking the August 2001 arrest of Zacarias Moussawi to the threat of an upcoming attack. Moussawi was arrested after arousing suspicions at a Minnesota flight school. He has admitted belonging to al-Qaida but denied he was part of the plot.

■ Not discovering false statements on visa applications of some of the future hijackers.

■ Not recognizing that some hijackers' passports were fraudulent.

■ Failing to expand no-fly lists to include names from terrorist watch lists.

■ Not searching airline passengers identified by a computer-based airline screening system known as the Computer-Assisted Passenger Pre-screening System.

■ Not hardening aircraft cockpit doors or taking other measures to prepare for the possibility of suicide hijackings.



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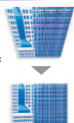
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Video shows 9/11 hijackers passing security

BY JOHN SOLOMON AND
TED BRIDIS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Some of the hijackers who crashed a jetliner into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, twice set off alarms as they passed through metal detectors that morning at Washington Dulles International Airport, but security screeners did not appear to question them about utility knives investigators believe they were carrying as part of the takeover plot, according to a newly disclosed surveillance video.

The video represents the only footage known to exist showing any of the Sept. 11 hijackers boarding their final flights that fateful morning. It shows most of the hijackers in Washington were pulled aside to undergo additional scrutiny after alarms went off at metal detectors but then were permitted to board American Airlines Flight 77.

The video also shows an airport screener hand-checking the baggage of one hijacker, Nawaf al-Hazmi, for traces of explosives before letting him continue onto the plane with his brother, Salem, a fellow hijacker. Al-Hazmi had been added to a U.S. government terrorism watch list just weeks earlier.

The disclosure of the video late Wednesday came just before the release of the final report by the Sept. 11 commission, which is expected to include a detailed accounting of the events that day.

No knives or other sharp objects are visible on the surveillance video. Investigators have said the hijackers at Dulles were believed to be carrying utility knives either personally or in their luggage, which at the time could legally be carried aboard aircraft.

The video shows hijackers Khalid al-Mihdhar and Majed Moqed, each dressed conservatively in slacks and collared shirts, setting off metal detectors as they pass through security around 7:18 a.m. Moqed set off a second alarm, and a screener manually checked him with a handheld metal detector.

Al-Mihdhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi had been known to be associated with al-Qaida since early 1999 by the National Security Agency and were put on a terrorism watch list on Aug. 24, 2001.

Only Hani Hanjour, believed to have been the hijacker who piloted Flight 77, was shown passing Dulles security that morning without being subjected to a secondary security check, according to the video.



In this image from a surveillance video from Washington's Dulles Airport the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, one hijacker out of the five hijackers that boarded American Airlines Flight 77 is being pulled aside to undergo additional scrutiny after setting off metal detectors. He was eventually permitted to board the flight that crashed into the Pentagon.

Tighter airport security still a work in progress

BY LESLIE MILLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly three years after the Sept. 11 attacks, the key elements of the Bush administration's effort to bolster airport security remain works in progress: more rigorous background checks of passengers and a longer way to check for explosives in luggage.

A plan to prescreen air travelers for terrorist connections, once described by the administration as an urgent need, has been sent back to the drawing board. And only eight of 441 commercial airports have systems recognized as the best at quickly and effectively screening checked baggage.

The reasons for the delays are varied. Technology problems and privacy concerns doomed the passenger prescreening program, while the enormous cost — an estimated \$5 billion — has held up progress installing large bomb-screening machines in airports.

The Transportation Security Administration said in January that the prescreening project — called Computer-Assisted Passenger Pre-screening System, or CAPPS II — could be up and running this summer. But the agency never was able to allay concerns about privacy, and last week acting TSA Administrator David Stone said CAPPS II would be "reshaped and repackaged."

Airlines have been responsible for determining which passengers get extra attention at security checkpoints. Since the 1980s, they've been using such criteria as whether a passenger

is flying one-way or pays for a ticket with cash. Screeners also select passengers for extra attention.

That system, though, is viewed as inefficient because it flags too many people and doesn't confirm their identities.

CAPPS II would have used commercial databases to verify passengers' identities. But airlines and airports were concerned about the invasiveness of such data-mining, which could wrongly suggest people are terrorists because of inaccurate data.

"There needs to be due process rights," said David Sobel, general counsel for the Electronic Privacy Information Center.

An aide to Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said the newest version of passenger prescreening would still check names against watch lists, but it's unclear what data would be used.

"No final decisions have been made," said Homeland Security spokesman Dennis Murphy.

Murphy said that CAPPS II was just part of a comprehensive approach to aviation security.

The number of federal air marshals grew to thousands from just a few dozen on Sept. 11, 2001. Airlines installed bulletproof cockpit doors, and some pilots now fly while carrying weapons. The private screening work force, characterized by low morale and high turnover, was replaced with federal screeners who are better trained and better paid.

A law passed after the terrorist attacks also requires all checked luggage to be screened using electronic devices.

Sept. 11 report on sale in bookstores

BY J. MICHAEL KENNEDY

Los Angeles Times

As the long-awaited report by the Sept. 11 commission is given to Congress Thursday, it will also go on sale at bookstores all across the country.

The same-day release in book form of the 500-page report meant that the publisher, W.W. Norton & Company, had to secretly print it and air ship it under wraps to bookstores.

The concurrent release was an idea put forward by Commission Chairman Thomas H. Kean, the former governor of New Jersey, who argued that the public

should have the same kind of access as government officials.

In all, more than 500,000 copies of the report — some estimates are as high as 700,000 — have been printed.

Norton remained firm that it would not disclose the process of how it printed and distributed the paperback until Thursday's publication date.

Commission members initially were skeptical of Kean's idea of same-day publication, fearing security breaches. But they eventually came around to Kean's way of thinking after he stressed the need for the public to have immediate access.

The report will sell for \$10 in most stores, though the price already has been lowered to \$8 on Amazon.com, the Seattle-based book seller that on Wednesday afternoon ranked it as 42nd on its popularity list, well up from its Tuesday ranking of 106. The publisher said that a free copy will be given to every family that lost a relative in the Sept. 11 crashes.

Louise Brockett, vice president and director of publicity at Norton, said the company was chosen on the basis of affordability, accuracy, availability and longevity.

"Norton views this as a historic document," she said. "We will keep this in print for generations."

White House aware of Berger probe months ago

BY PETE YOST

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats are raising questions about Justice Department contacts with White House lawyers months ago about a criminal investigation of former Clinton administration national security adviser Sandy Berger.

The White House acknowledged came Wednesday as the chairman of the Democratic National Committee requested any correspondence between the Justice Department and the White House regarding the probe.

On Capitol Hill, the main investigative committee in the Republican-led House will look into the allegations against Berger.

Democratic committee chairman Terry McAuliffe said he wants to see any paper trail between the Justice Department and the White House because of

"the questionable timing" of leaked news revealing the Berger probe just days before release of the report by the commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The panel's final report details failures during both the Bush and Clinton administrations in responding to terrorist threats before Sept. 11.

Both Nolan, a former White House counsel in the Clinton administration, said the fact the White House knew of the probe raises questions about whether the information was handled appropriately.

Regarding the extent of information the White House should

be provided by the Justice Department, Nolan said it should be "a notification, but that should be about it. It seems to me there are lots of questions about how the information was provided by the Justice Department and how it was handled afterward at the White House."

Assistant Attorney General Christopher Wray, who runs the Justice Department's criminal division, refused to say whether the department had notified the White House.

The Justice Department is delving into whether Berger committed a crime by removing from the National Archives copies of documents about the government's anti-terror efforts and notes that he took on those documents.

Berger was reviewing the materials to help determine which Clinton administration documents to provide to the Sept. 11 commission.



Berger

Kerry holds 2-1 lead among Latino voters

By WILL LESTER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry holds a 2-1 lead over President Bush among Hispanics, according to polling that suggested Republicans have not made inroads into a key demographic group they have targeted for this election.

A majority of Hispanics, 56 percent, said they disapprove of the way Bush is handling the war in Iraq. Kerry and running mate

Sen. John Edwards had the backing of 59 percent, while Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney had 31 percent and independents Ralph Nader and Peter Camejo had 3 percent, according to the poll released Thursday by the Pew Hispanic Center and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

When voters were asked if they might change their vote for president, 29 percent of those who said they were not voting for Kerry said there was a chance they might support him. Only 13 per-

cent of those not supporting Bush said there was a chance they might back him.

Bush's job approval rating among Hispanic voters was 35 percent, lower than his job approval among the general population in other polling.

In the 2000 election, Democrat Al Gore got 62 percent of the Hispanic vote and Bush got 35 percent, according to exit polls.

Polling finds different levels of support among different Hispanic groups. For example, Cuban-

Americans were more likely to support Bush, while Mexican-Americans were more likely to support Kerry. But the Pew poll found signs the GOP effort to gain ground among Hispanics may be a difficult task this year.

Nearly half of Hispanics, 45 percent, identified themselves as Democrats. About two in 10, 20 percent, said they are Republicans, and another two in 10 said they are independents.

That's almost an identical party breakdown to similar polls taken

in 1999 and 2002.

The party identification was measured in polling of 2,288 Hispanic adults, including 1,166 Hispanic registered voters, from April 21 to June 9.

The head-to-head matchup of Bush and Kerry was from a poll taken July 12-20 of 788 Hispanic registered voters. The margin of sampling error for both polls of registered voters was plus or minus 4 percentage points. The margin of error for the in-depth adult sample was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Hee-haw! Donkey a Democrat delegate

By DOUG GROSS
The Associated Press

RISING FAWN, Ga. — Deep in this corner of rural Georgia, in the foothills of Lookout Mountain, lives the secret weapon of the Democratic Party.

Most of the local Republican operatives wouldn't recognize him as such. He's fairly quiet and mostly keeps to himself. But he's all but guaranteed to be the focus of photographers' lenses when he attends his party's national convention this month in Boston.

People call him Swifty. To the Democrats, he's the official donkey delegate of their 2004 national convention.

This purebred donkey is packing it up for the 942-mile haul to New England to help win over undecided voters for his party's man, Sen. John Kerry.

Increased security measures because of the threat of terrorism almost kept Swifty out of the convention. No one but delegates and staff — not even officially designated donkeys — will be allowed into the convention venue, the FleetCenter.

No one in charge of the vendor area near the center seemed to know what to do with a donkey, and the official word from convention organizers was that there would be no room for Swifty.

"I was almost in tears," said Bridget Martin, a spokeswoman for the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, who helped organize the donkey's trip for Swifty's handler, Morris Powell, a member of the union. "I was so upset when I got word that it wasn't going to happen."

Enter the Kerry campaign, where officials had heard of the four-legged delegate's plight and were determined to make the trip happen.

"I was called by Senator Kerry's office and asked if we'd be able to accommodate Swifty," said Jo Anne Baxter, a spokeswoman for the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston.

She was quick to point out that the move to accommodate Swifty wasn't a partisan one. "If President Bush wants to come and have an elephant greeting our visitors, he'd be welcomed as well," she said.

When asked about the burden of being the Demo-



Morris Powell, a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Boston, takes Swifty the donkey from his stall on his family farm in Rising Fawn, Ga. As one of the most active Democrats in the rural part of Georgia, Powell was assured a spot as a delegate at the party's convention in Boston. It took some negotiating, but now Swifty is a delegate, too.

crats' official mascot, Swifty declined to comment during an exclusive interview Friday at his stable in extreme northeast Georgia. Instead, he kept silent with his mouth full, chewing on weeds growing near the corner of his stall. That was his response to all the questions.

Mich., Ohio cancel receptions

By MARTIN FINUCANE
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Welcoming receptions for the delegations from Michigan and Ohio have been canceled due to the city's labor dispute with its police union and the threat of picketing, organizers of the Democratic National Convention announced Wednesday.

Boston 2004 Inc. said it and Mayor Thomas Menino shared the disappointment of "all who have taken part in the planning of these events, including the businesses, community leaders and residents who have been eagerly awaiting the opportunity to host these visiting delegations in their neighborhoods."

"It is unfortunate that small, local minority- and women-owned businesses must suffer as a result of circumstances beyond their control," Boston 2004, the host committee, said in a statement.

The police union has been locked in a bitter contract dispute with Menino and has vowed to picket weekend welcoming parties for the delega-

tions to draw attention to its cause.

The police are asking for a 17 percent raise over four years, while the city is offering 11.9 percent. The average base pay for union members last year was \$53,700, while their average annual earnings were \$83,700, according to the Boston Municipal Research Bureau.

The dispute was ordered to binding arbitration on Monday; an agreement is expected to be issued by the state Joint Labor-Management Committee on Thursday.

Mark Brewer, executive chairman of the Michigan Democratic party, said his delegation had decided earlier to hold an alternative welcoming party Sunday in the southeastern Massachusetts city of New Bedford because of the uncertainty about whether union protesters would picket at their Boston event. Now, organizers have simply canceled the Boston event, he said. Ohio Democratic Party officials asked the convention host committee to cancel their reception, chairman Denny White said Wednesday.

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Vets return to mark Guam liberation

BY B.J. REYES

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Despite the bombardment of mortar fire and explosions lighting up the night sky, Thomas Spry remembers being thankful when his unit stormed the beaches of Guam 60 years ago to liberate the territory from the Japanese.

Spry spent weeks en route to Guam aboard the USS Ormsby. As the transport vessel approached the island, it quickly came under heavy fire from Japanese forces on shore.

"I thought I was going to die on the ship," the 78-year-old retired Marine recalled Wednesday on Guam.

"Needless to say, we were all the happiest people in the world to get on land — no matter what we had to face."

Spry, of Mission Viejo, Calif., is back on the island this week as one of about 150 veterans taking part in ceremonies marking the 60th anniversary of Guam's liberation.

"Everybody's stopping us on the street doing everything — welcoming us, hugging us, thanking us," Spry said in a telephone interview. "You couldn't be more receptive than the way they have shown us."

Liberation Day is one of the biggest

holidays in Guam, marking the July 21, 1944, campaign, which would free the territory from Japanese control and help pave the way for an Allied victory in the Pacific.

Ceremonies during the past two weeks have included memorial services, candlelight vigils, wreath-laying events, the annual Liberation Day parade and the dedication of "Marine Corps Drive" in Adelup to honor the servicemen who fought in the battle.

During Japan's occupation of Guam, which began days after the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese soldiers tortured and terrorized the Chamorros, the indigenous people of Guam, who concealed the presence of American soldiers.

Spry recalls making his way inland with his unit after securing the beach to free people from concentration camps.

"All they were doing was they were singing this song: 'Sam, Sam, my dear Uncle Sam, won't you please come back to Guam,'" Spry said. "You never forget those things."

Also on Wednesday, U.S. lawmakers in Washington began hearings on a federal commission's recommendation that the U.S. government pay an additional \$125 million to survivors of the occupation and



Former U.S. Marine Dick Kidder, 81, of Ohio, holds a portion of a ribbon from a ceremony Tuesday to re-dedicate Marine Corps Drive, one of Guam's busiest roads, in honor of the Marines who came to liberate Guam from the Japanese occupation during World War II. Guam held its 60th Liberation Day festivities Tuesday.

relatives of survivors who have since died.

After World War II, the U.S. government decided Japan did not have to pay reparations to Guamanians but agreed to compensate them from the U.S. Treasury for property, personal injury or death.

Residents of other island groups, including the Philippines and the Northern Mari-

anas, were paid reparations by the Japanese.

Although the U.S. government established the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945, Guamanian survivors and their relatives have testified that many payments set up through the program were never made and those that were made weren't much.



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FACES 'N' PLACES

Sexiest vegetarian poll out

The secret to Grammy-winning hip-hop? Maybe it's the veggies. Andre 3000 of OutKast has been voted the World's Sexiest Vegetarian in PETA's annual online poll. He shares the honor with actress Alicia Silverstone.

More than 12,000 votes were cast in the annual contest run by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Results were released last week.

Previous winners include Tobey Maguire, Lauren Bush and Shania Twain.

Silverstone and Andre 3000 beat out other contenders not known for their eating habits: John Cleese, Prince and "Weird Al" Yankovic.

Andre 3000, 30, is the flashier side of the hip-hop duo OutKast. OutKast's hip-hoppy jive won three trophies at the 2004 Grammy Awards: best urban-alternative performance for "Hey Ya!" and best rap album and overall album of the year for "Speakerboxx/The Love Below." It was the first rap album to win most of the awards in top categories. Silverstone, 27, has starred in films including "Clueless" and "Eatman & Robin."



Andre 3000

Noth on tour in Jerusalem

Chris Noth, who played Mr. Big on HBO's "Sex and the City," greeted fans in Israel at Judaism's holiest site, the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Noth is on a 10-day tour of Israel, sponsored by the Israeli Tourism Ministry. He also filmed a commercial Monday for a brand of Israeli deodorant.

"I feel great solidarity, as a New Yorker, being here in Israel," the actor told reporters Tuesday. "I hope to show Americans that they should come here."

Incoming Tourism Minister Gideon Ezra presented Noth with a certificate of appreciation.

"This visit is very important to us," Ezra told The Associated Press. "Many celebrities have come to Israel, and we take very good care of our visitors."

"Sex and the City," starring Sarah Jessica Parker, was shown on a local TV channel and gained wide popularity among Israelis.

Noth played one of Parker's boyfriends on the show, which ran for six seasons. He recently finished filming a new movie, "The Perfect Man."



Noth

"Shark Tale" to be featured at festival

"Shark Tale," a computer-animated comedy featuring the voices of Will Smith, Robert DeNiro, Renee Zellweger and Angelina Jolie, will be a gala presentation at the Toronto International Film Festival Sept. 9-18.

"Shark Tale" also features the voices of Jack Black and Martin Scorsese. It is set in the underwater underworld where a timid vegetarian shark named Oscar is fingered as the killer of a shark mob boss' son. It is set for release Oct. 1.

Organizers also announced this week that there will be a pair of matinee galas for the first time in the festival's 29-year history.

The North American premiere of "Shark Tale" will be one, and another title will be revealed later, bringing the total number of galas to 20.



DeNiro

R.E.M. steeped needs help

The steeple of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Athens, Ga., where the band R.E.M. first performed together in 1980, is in dire need of restoration and its owners are offering to give it away to someone willing to take on the expensive job.

The 135-year-old steeple is all that remains of the church after it was destroyed in 1990 to build a condominium complex. The owners of the Steeplechase condos kept the spire as a historic artifact, but the group is too small to raise the funds necessary to restore it.

Condo association manager Kate Hinton said the owners want to give the artifact to someone able to afford the restoration.

In 1980, R.E.M. lead singer Michael Stipe and guitarist Peter Buck moved into converted apartments in the church and held the band's earliest practices there. The group, which also included bassist Mike Mills and drummer Bill Berry, gained international prominence with hits including "Losing My Religion" and helped solidify Athens' reputation as a launching pad for popular music.

From The Associated Press

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETER PHOTOKE
Stars and Stripes

New film 'I, Robot' is simply one more chance to prove Will Smith owns the summer season

BY JOE NEUMAIER
New York Daily News

Summertime is synonymous with Will Smith. Starting with "Independence Day" in 1996, the 35-year-old actor has starred in a bunch of big-budget action-adventure films released in prime blockbuster slots in early July. His latest, "I, Robot," opened in the States last week.

While there's more to Smith than his solar-powered smile and thermonuclear charm, he knows what season works best for his brand of star power. "There's a connection I have with summer audiences—I know what this time of year means at the movies, I know what people are doing with their families, and I know what they need to start off their vacations," says Smith. "It's been July 4 for a lot of years—that's Big Willie Weekend! People feel they're in good hands. I know what they want."

He isn't about to upset the apple cart. Though Smith was Oscar-nominated for his performance as Muhammad Ali in 2001's "Ali," and has given good performances in such serious movies as "Six Degrees of Separation" and "The Legend of Bagger Vance," if he harbors unsatisfied creative yearnings, he's keeping them to himself.

Sequels like "Men in Black II" and "Bad Boys II" further suggest Hollywood doesn't want the star to stray far from his successful formula.

Smith says only the physical strain of action films may force him to give up the genre by the time he hits his 40s. Rather than feeling limited, he says he's adding subtlety to his blockbusters.

"As I get older, it's going to be a necessity to have ideas in these films—you can only save the world so many times before people start saying 'All right buddy, we got it,'" he says. "Audiences are going to reject action movies where you just blow stuff up and a guy looks cool. These films need to be intellectually stimulating."

"After 'Ali,' I went back to [action films], back to that comfort. Some people, once they get an Oscar nomination, they get the bug to only do serious films. For me, I know I'll have time for that, so I don't want to lose my connection to the youngster in me."

"I feel confident at this point that I can pretty much do what I want. I've found a comfortable creative freedom. It's my decision which side of myself to show."

"I, Robot," based loosely on Isaac Asimov's 1950 short-story collection, reflects Smith's desire to make an adventure that takes place in a murkier moral universe.

He plays a Chicago detective in 2035, who investigates a robot accused of murder. Like "Blade Runner" and "Minority Report," the film touches on the idea of whether it's emotion, intelligence or violence that makes humans unique.

Nelson George, author of "Buppies, B-Boys, Baps, and Bohos: Notes on Post-Soul Black Culture," says that Smith occupies a unique place in pop culture.

"There haven't been many black performers like him—there's nothing brooding about him, you don't feel any anger, the same as when he first made music in the '80s. People are attracted to his aura. There may be dark corners to Will, but you don't see them."

On New Year's Eve in 1997, Smith married actress Jada Pinkett ("The Matrix Reloaded," "The Nutty Professor"), whom he met when she auditioned for a role on "Fresh Prince." The two were friends through Smith's three-year marriage to actress Sherree Zampino, whom he divorced in 1995 and with whom he has a son, Trey, now 11.

Though he and Pinkett Smith are looked at as one of Hollywood's most successful couples, he says the onscreen romance of "The Last First Kiss," which he is currently filming, is undiscovered territory.

"Young black couples will walk up to me and Jada on the street and say, 'Y'all got to stay together, because if you guys can't make it, none of us can!' We love that."

"But I've only recently gotten comfortable with movie romance. I've never wanted any woman to feel like I'm disrespecting her, and that's created a distance in my roles. I think there's a certain energy that you need in order to create a romance in movies!"

Smith's personal energy, though, has never been in doubt.

"There's real pleasure that I get out of being happy and getting people energized—that's when I'm at my best," he says. "I need that dynamic both selfishly and selflessly. I try to encourage everyone around me to go someplace different artistically, to think differently."

Does that ever get exhausting for his wife?

"Jada and I can [talk] about things for hours, but when other people are around, yeah, I can wear her out," Smith says, flashing his killer grin. "I think my energy can get a little oppressive for her. But she understands that it's a life-force for our relationship, as much as it might get on her nerves."

"It's like, we all love the sun, but the sun can burn you sometimes!"

'Pokemon' cleared of lasting effects

Researchers say children made sick didn't suffer later unless they already had epilepsy

BY JANET MCCONNAUGHEY
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Japanese children who had seizures during a "Pokemon" cartoon in 1997 have generally not had another one unless they already had epilepsy, researchers say.

The TV show sent at least 685 Japanese viewers, mostly children, to emergency rooms with symptoms ranging from nausea and hyperventilation to convulsions. They were apparently made sick by a scene with extremely rapid flashes of red and blue.

To find out whether the incident had any lasting effects, Dr. Akihisa Okumura and colleagues in Nagoya sent questionnaires to doctors who had treated 103 "Pokemon" patients in the prefecture, or state, of

Aichi. They got back results for 91 patients.

Twenty-five had had at least one more convulsion in the five years since the "Pokemon" episode. They were divided almost evenly between those diagnosed with epilepsy and those who weren't.

However, electroencephalograms revealed that 10 of the 13 who had not been diagnosed with epilepsy did, in fact, have the disease.

His findings were published as a letter to the editor in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

"That's very much what I would have expected," said Dr.

Donald M. Olson, director of pediatric epilepsy at Stanford University's Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

"A lot of us may have a genetic predisposition to epilepsy but never have



SHNS

The most recognizable of the creatures in the "Pokemon" TV universe may be Pikachu, a mouse-like monster. In 1997, some Japanese children suffered seizures that were blamed on a scene on the popular show featuring extremely rapid flashes of red and blue.

a seizure in their lives," he said. "This is just one of those unusual occurrences where a specific trigger — this kind of flashing screen — provoked seizures in people who might not otherwise have had them."

Olson said the risk of TVs, video games and computers triggering a seizure is extremely low for children who have not already had seizures.

The incident in Japan was by far the largest in which seizures have been traced to a TV broadcast.

Ronstadt will continue Moore praise

LOS ANGELES — Linda Ronstadt said she'll continue to praise Michael Moore and his film "Fahrenheit 9/11" on stage despite an angry reaction at a Las Vegas concert.

"This is an election year," she told the Los Angeles Times on Tuesday. "I want people to get their head up out of their mashed potatoes and learn something about the issues and go and vote. ... I'm not telling them how to vote. I'm saying, get information about the issues."

When Ronstadt, 58, praised Moore and his documentary Saturday at the Aladdin hotel-casino, some in the audience stormed out of the theater and tore down concert posters.

The casino's president said he did not allow the singer back in her luxury suite and she was escorted off the property after calling Moore a "great American patriot" during a prelude to her encore.



Ronstadt

Singer to hold Haiti fund-raiser

CASTRIES, St. Lucia — Grammy winner Wyckle Jean said he was planning a Dec. 5 concert in Haiti to promote peace in his troubled native land.

Jean said the concert in Haiti would be a fund-raiser for efforts to stabilize the Caribbean country, but he did not provide details. He said he hoped 2 million would attend, no small feat in a nation of 8 million people.

"I was in Haiti three weeks ago, and I was hanging out on the block of the ghettos, in the baddest parts of town with no security," Jean said while on tour to promote his first album in Creole, Haiti's language.

Jean's new album, "Welcome to Haiti: Kweyole 101," tells the story of a Haitian boy who immigrates to America and grows up in New York.

Jean, 31, who immigrated to the United States as a child, said he drew from his own experiences and those of other Haitian refugees in America.

From The Associated Press

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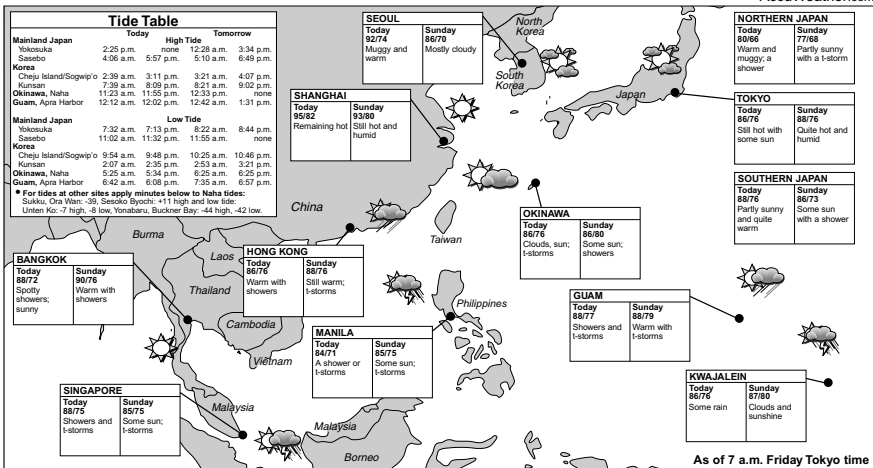
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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Monday: Partly sunny, high 90, low 82.
Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 74.

KADENA

Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 89, low 81.
Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 89, low 78.

SEoul

Monday: Thundershowers, high 84, low 71.
Tuesday: Thundershowers, high 85, low 68.

MANILA

Monday: Thundershowers, high 89, low 77.
Tuesday: Thundershowers, high 91, low 77.

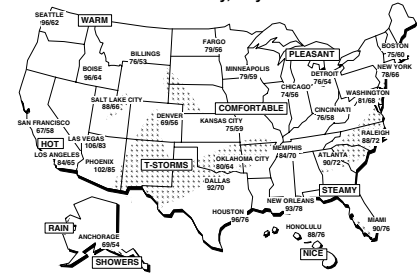
HAGATNA

Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 91, low 80.
Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 91, low 78.

Thursday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	89/68	Los Angeles	82/64
Amarillo	93/62	Little Rock	96/73
Anchorage	67/55	Louisville	91/74
Ashville	85/65	Miami	91/78
Baltimore	90/72	Milwaukee	87/60
Birmingham	93/74	Nashville	94/74
Bismark	75/47	New York	88/74
Boise	94/63	Omaha	82/64
Boston	87/68	Orlando	94/72
Brownsville	96/79	Philadelphia	90/74
Buffalo	82/65	Phoenix	112/86
Burlington	91/70	Pittsburgh	82/67
Charleston, SC	93/75	Portland, OR	97/65
Chattelle	93/70	Portland, ME	77/63
Cleveland	88/66	Salt Lake City	94/65
Columbus, OH	87/69	St. Louis	96/71
Duluth	72/48	San Antonio	93/76
El Paso	90/74	San Diego	72/66
Hartford	91/67	San Juan	91/77
Helena	83/52	Tampa	94/75
Indianapolis	91/67	Tulsa	96/75
Jacksonville	95/71	Washington	90/73
Kansas City	89/67	Wichita	96/67

Saturday, July 24



U.S. Extended Forecast

A cold front stretching from the Northeast coast to the Carolinas and Tennessee Valley will remain stalled Saturday. This front will separate cooler air over the Great Lakes and interior Northeast from tropical air south of the front. This front will move little over the weekend into early next week. Showers and thundershowers may form near the front through early next week. Afternoon showers and thundershowers will be more widespread across the Deep South this weekend into early next week. Moisture will continue to stream northward across the Rockies, bringing showers and thundershowers on a daily basis. The West Coast will be dry and hot. Interior portions of Washington and Oregon will climb above 100 degrees.

Saturday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	88/72	Iwakuni	90/77
Beijing	88/72	Kadena AB	86/76
Camp Casey	89/74	Kunshan AB	89/77
Christchurch	46/32	Kwajalein	86/76
Diego Garcia	80/74	Singapore	84/71
Hagata	88/77	Misawa AB	85/72
Hanoi	83/72	Osan	93/78
Hong Kong	86/76	Perth	60/44
Honolulu	88/76	Pusan	88/77
		Tokyo	86/76

Saturday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	92/77	Budapest	86/50	Kabul	101/69
Athens	91/73	Buenos Aires	63/55	Kiev	7/86
Auckland	49/40	Cairo	101/71	New Delhi	101/88
Baghdad	107/77	Cancun	85/72	Oslo	69/51
Barbados	86/70	Capetown	52/29	Paris	74/63
Barcelona	84/69	Geneva	75/58	Rio de Janeiro	68/57
Berlin	72/52	Istanbul	81/62	Stockholm	77/59
Bermuda	87/75	Jerusalem	88/64	Taipei	72/53
Brussels	72/52	Johannesburg	72/46	Warsaw	82/58



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SATURDAY EVENING / JULY 24, 2004

MOVIES

• SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	Headline News	ESPN News	My Wife and Kids 'Empty Nest'	The West Wing 'Talking Points' Josh	Law & Order 'Vendetta' New York's	Headline News	Saturday Night Live				
7	AFN-AT	Trading Spaces	The Best Of 'Gourmet Platters'	Entertainment Tonight (CC)	WWWE Raw	My Wife and Kids 'Empty Nest'	The West Wing 'Talking Points' (CC)	Law & Order 'Vendetta' (CC)				
8	NEWS	Dateline NBC (CC)	The O'Reilly Factor (CC)	ONL Saturday Morning (CC)	20/20 (CC)		Today (CC)					
9	SPTS	***4:00 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced	SportsCenter	MLB Baseball Teams To Be Announced								
10	SPTS	While You Were Out	Trading Spaces A designer transforms	Everwood 'Unspoken Truths' A bar fight	Strong Medicine 'Blush' Andy treats an	*** 'It Could Happen to You' (1994, Comedy-Drama) Nicolas Cage, Bridget						
11	TMC	(15) *** 'Chilly Dogs' (2001, Comedy) Sheet	Unlabeled, Natasha Henstridge, Leslie	*** 'Pumpkin' (2002, Comedy-Drama) Christina	Evening at Pops Singer-songwriter	*** 'They (2002, Horror) Laura Regan, Marc						
12	PBS	(5:00) Nova Galleo's observations of the	Antiques Roadshow Original comic	History Detectives A ship reportedly	Michael McDonald performs Doobie	*** 'Phenomenal' (1998, Drama) Ray Liotta, Anjelica Huston, Anthony LaPaglia						
13	SHOW	*** 'Unforgettable' (1996, Suspense) Ray	Liotta, Linda Furlong, Peter Onorati	*** 'Narc' (2002, Crime Drama) Ray Liotta, Jason	Pratt, Jonny Lee Miller, Chris McBride	Premiere. Three corrupt cops get caught up in a gambling scheme. (CC)						
14	AE	Investigative Reports A report on the	City Confidential A crooked cop convicted	American Justice 'The Happy Face	Cold Case Files 'Mummy's Rules' A	City Confidential Poisoning of Nancy						
15	DISC	To Be Announced	Storm Warning!	Anatomy of Disaster	To Be Announced	To Be Announced						
16	CHN	(5:50) Magandang Gabi, Bayan	(6:55) Home Alone	(7:50) Floren	Kontrobersyal	(15) News	(145) Magandang					
17	TFC	Larry King Live (CC)	CNN World News	World Sport	CNN World News	Elizabisa	CNN World News	World Sport	CNN World News	World Sport	CNN World News	Talk Asia
18	GOLF	*European PGA Golf Nissan Irish Open	Second Round, From Drogheda, Ireland	*Golf Channel Academy	*Golf Central	*Golf Channel Academy	*Golf Central	*Golf Channel Academy	*Golf Central	*Golf Channel Academy	*European PGA Golf Nissan Irish Open	Third Round, (Live)
19	TLC	Trading Spaces 'Pamela's Place' Los Angeles	While You Were Out A woman wants to	Clean Sweep 'Disco Disaster' Eliminat	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street	Trading Spaces 'Tampa: Horatio Street'
20	TOON	What's New Scooby-Doo?	He-Man and the Masters of the Universe	Scooby-Doo and the Witch's Ghost	Bugs & Daffy Show	Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!	Cartoon Cartoon	Cartoon	Detective Squad			
21	ANPL	Most Extreme: Births Extreme births in	Yenon E.R. A rattlesnake bites a man on	Emergency Vets 'Most Unusual Cases'	Complex cases. (N)	Amazing Animal Videos Baby animals	Emergency Vets 'Most Unusual Cases'	Complex cases.				
22	COM	Mad TV Tom Arnold (CC)	Mad TV 'American Idol' winner Kelly	Last Comic Standing Plotting contin	Reno 911! Dan's ex-wife visits	Reno 911! Jailbird broadcasts re	Chappelle's Show	Chappelle's Show	The Graham Norton Effect (CC)			
23	NGC-A	Be the Creature 'Mexican Free-Tailed	Animal Devil	Comic Stunt Hunters Some cultures	Hunt for the Death Star	America's Most Wanted (CC)	She Spies 'Crossed Out' Accused of	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'
24	SPKE	*** 'You Only Live Twice' (1967, Adventure) Sean Connery (CC)	*** 'WWE Velocity' (N) (CC)	Side With FunkMaster Flex	America's Most Wanted (CC)	America's Most Wanted (CC)	She Spies 'Crossed Out' Accused of	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'
25	FOX	StarGate SG-1 'Sight Unseen' An an	The Invisible Man (CC)	Cops Miami offi	America's Most Wanted (CC)	America's Most Wanted (CC)	She Spies 'Crossed Out' Accused of	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'
26	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	BET.com Countdown	Cops A drug bust	America's Most Wanted (CC)	America's Most Wanted (CC)	She Spies 'Crossed Out' Accused of	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'
27	COURT	1. Detective Park	Cops A drug bust	America's Most Wanted (CC)	America's Most Wanted (CC)	America's Most Wanted (CC)	She Spies 'Crossed Out' Accused of	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'	Amazing Space 'Where's the Star'
28	STR-WL	Baywatch (CC)	Roswell (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Wrestling	Mutant X (CC)	Coupling (CC)					
29	LIFE	(4:00) 'Dead by Sunset' (1995, Drama)	Ken Lin, Linda Frost, Amette O	Fatal Lessons: The Good Teacher' (2004, Drama)	Erika Eleniak, Patricia	Missing 'Sea of Love' (Season Pre	What Should You Do? (CC)					
30	ABCFA	*** 'Beethoven' (1992, Comedy) Charles	Griffin, Bonnie Hunt, Dean Jones	*** 'Beethoven's 2nd' (1993, Comedy)	Charles Griffin, Bonnie Hunt, Nichol	Whose Line Is It Anyway? (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos					
31	HIST	Toolbox 'Handbook' A handbook from	Guts & Bolshoi Shant	History vs. Hollywood 'King Arthur'	Quest for King Arthur For centuries,	Banned From the Bible Some believe						
32	STW-H	(8:45) *** 'Air Bud Spikes Back' (1993)	*** 'Like Mike' (2002, Fantasy) Li	Boow, Morris Chestnut, Jonathan	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)	*** 'The Real One' (2003, Suspense)
33	ADV I	(8:30) Footytopia	Extreme Lives: My Right Foot	Surfers' Journal	Adventures of The Great	Barbar Reel contains numerous	Chasing Time	Chasing Time	Chasing Time	Chasing Time	Chasing Time	Chasing Time
34	MTV	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders	Room Raiders
35	NICK	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	Invader Jim	Tomato Twins	Action League Now	WOW Weekend Marathon: Rugrats	The Amanda Show	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	The Amanda Show	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	The Amanda Show	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)

JAPAN TV

Morning
11:00 Japan Senior High School Baseball:
Kanagawa Prefecture Tournament (42)

Afternoon
1:00 Traditional Arts of Japan: Bunraku (3)
3:30 Japan Elementary School Track and
Field Meet (2)

Evening
4:00 2004 Women's World Grand Prix Volley-
ball: South Korea vs. Japan (6)
5:00 J-League Ladies Tournament (12)

7:00 News (3)
7:30 Japan Pro Ball: Yokohama BayStars vs.
Yomiuri Giants (6)

7:30 Soccer: NABISCO Cup - Yokohama F.
Marinos vs. Cerezo Osaka (42)
9:15 Soccer: AFC Asian Cup in China 2004:
Japan vs. Thailand (10)

23:10 U.S. Movie (1998): No Code of Conduct
(152/16)

5:30 F1 Grand Prix: The 12th Round, German
GP Preliminary (3)

JAPAN TV-B57

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 MLB: New York Yankees vs. Boston Red
Sox
11:00 MLB: Anaheim Angels vs. Seattle Mari-
ners

Afternoon
2:00 MLB Inside Reports
5:00 Evening
6:00 BS Documentary: Apathetic
7:00 Soccer: AFC Asian Cup in China 2004:
Oman vs. Iran
9:00 Soccer: AFC Asian Cup in China 2004:
Japan vs. Thailand

11:50 CNN News
12:40 Japan Martial Arts - Tai Chi Champio-
nship
1:30 MotoGP: 8th Round, German GP High-
lights
3:05 What's on Asia
3:30 What's on Japan
4:15 Japanology
5:00 PGA Golf: U.S. Bank Championship in Mil-
waukee, 3rd Round

Morning
8:05 Cartoon
8:30 Olympic Concert 2004
Evening
7:00 NAR News
12:00 Tokyo Jazz Playback (r)

11:50 CNN News
12:40 Japan Martial Arts - Tai Chi Champio-
nship
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waukee, 3rd Round

Morning
8:05 Cartoon
8:30 Olympic Concert 2004
Evening
7:00 NAR News
12:00 Tokyo Jazz Playback (r)

JAPAN TV-B511

Morning
8:00 TV Series: Third Watch
9:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-
tion
10:30 Japanese-Canadian-French-U.S. Movie
Hondo
11:30 U.S. Movie (1987): Robocop (1-50)
3:30 U.S. Movie (2002): Robocop 2 (2:00)
5:00 U.S. Movie (1993): Robocop 3 (1:46)
Evening
8:00 U.S. 3rd Movie (2002): The Four Feath-
ers (2:15)
10:15 U.S. Movie (2001): Hannibal (2:15)
12:30 TV Series: The First Emperor (2:50)
10:00 TV Series: Sex and the City

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6:00 Wake up
8:00 Classic 30's
9:00 Top Choice: Murrur
10:00 Catch Saturday
Afternoon
1:00 Catch Saturday
2:30 Top Choice: Jennifer Love Hewitt
3:30 Top Choice: Jennifer Love Hewitt
4:30 Top Choice: Jennifer Love Hewitt
5:30 Catch Saturday
6:00 Making the Video
7:00 Rock On
7:30 Consensus: Green Day
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7:00 Rock On
7:

Fight ends in death

PA PITTSBURGH — Angry at his roommate for abandoning him at a bar and stuffing him for the tab, Chad Mulvin returned home with a head full of steam, according to police.

Once inside their home early July 2, Mulvin, 29, went looking for Joseph Larkin, 31.

Larkin told police that Mulvin went for Larkin's .22-caliber rifle.

During a struggle, the gun went off, striking Mulvin in the chest, according to a confession Larkin made.

As a result, county police charged him with one count of criminal homicide.

Using his sister's car, Larkin took Mulvin's body to his mother's home and buried him in a shallow grave in the back yard under concrete and leaves, according to a police affidavit.

Homicide detectives recovered the body early this week and Larkin was arraigned. The coroner positively identified the decomposed body as Mulvin's and said he had died of a gunshot wound to the chest.

Truck runs into eatery

NC SWANN — A dump truck careened off a highway Monday and barreled into a seafood restaurant just after lunch hour, injuring at least three people, authorities said.

Three patients were taken by ambulance to Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford, said Dianne Raynor, communications director for the Harnett County Sheriff's Department.

Peggy's Seafood Restaurant is about 40 miles southwest of Raleigh. Television footage showed the truck about halfway into a corner of the restaurant.

No one answered the telephone at the restaurant after the 1:30 p.m. crash. Authorities had not determined the cause.

No hold on hunt permits

AZ PHOENIX — A federal judge refused to put a hold on his order that the state change the way it allocates hunting permits.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has been scrambling to meet a federal court order to make the process fair to out-of-state hunters. It had asked for a delay in the order.

Mudslides block the way

WY YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — Mudslides from an area stripped of vegetation by forest fires engulfed three vehicles and indefinitely closed the eastern entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

Park rangers helped free 16 people after the mud started flowing Sunday night following thunderstorms. Mud sloshed up to the hoods of cars, and some people had to be pulled out through car windows.

"I was told there was enough mud that you couldn't even read



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

the license plates to see what state they were from." Yellowstone spokesman Al Nash said Monday.

No one was injured.

The slides, up to 10 feet deep and 90 yards long, blocked about three-quarters of a mile of the park's East Entrance Road at Silver Pass.

There was no indication when the east entrance, seven miles east of the mudslide zone, might reopen.

Inmates make beer run

TN ROGERSVILLE — The party's over for four jail inmates accused of walking away from an unlocked cell block, buying more than two cases of beer and returning to share it with other prisoners.

Ridley Dean Coleman, Jimmy Joe Stapleton, David Wayne Blizard and David Allen Hopkins were charged Monday with escape and introduction of intoxicants into a penal institution.

The escape happened Thursday night after cell block doors at the Hawkins County Jail were accidentally left unlocked and a faulty control panel failed to alert jailers, Sheriff Warren Rimer said.

Two of the inmates then walked out through a fire exit, left the door propped open with a small Bible and made a hole in the exercise yard fence.

They walked to a nearby market, bought some beer and returned to the jail.

When the booze ran out, the other two inmates made another



Social distortion

John Arthur, of Larel Bay, S.C., reacts to his mirror-distorted image as Cappy the Clown shows him his face during Children's Day at the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park in Beaufort, S.C.

beer run to a different store.

"At least they came back," he said.

No balloon permit

MD BALTIMORE — The state revoked the permit of Balloon Over Baltimore two days after the ride was stuck 350 feet in the air for nearly 90 minutes. The ride, located in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, had operated since 2001 without incident. The helium-filled balloon caused a safety ordeal when 20 passengers were stranded in the air.

New hurricane guides

LA COVINGTON — New electronic signs will be used to help steer traffic to the proper routes should the New Orleans metropolitan area face an evacuation during hurricane season. The signs will be located along Interstates 10, 12 and 59 in St. Tammany Parish and on Interstate 10 in St. John the Baptist Parish.

Out of service

IN SOUTH BEND — US Airways has decided to end its service at South Bend Regional Airport beginning next month, airport officials said.

The air carrier's four daily flights from South Bend to Pittsburgh are to end Sept. 7. The carrier accounts for about 11 percent of the airport's commercial passengers.

"I hate to lose this service," said John Schalliol, the airport executive director. "We have had them since December 1982."

Twelve US Airways workers will lose their jobs in South Bend, Schalliol said.

Brochure do-over

FL ORLANDO — U.S. authorities agreed to rewrite training guidelines for a program that would teach firefighters and workers who regularly go into homes to report signs of terrorist activity.

The decision to scrap 5,000 printed brochures came a week after civil rights advocates criticized the plan. The new guidelines will remove references to particular ethnic groups.

The brochure cautioned that "multiple adult males living together, usually of Middle Eastern appearance and between the ages of 18 and 45, with little or no furnishings" could signal international terrorism.

It also called for workers to report signs of drug trafficking and child sex abuse.

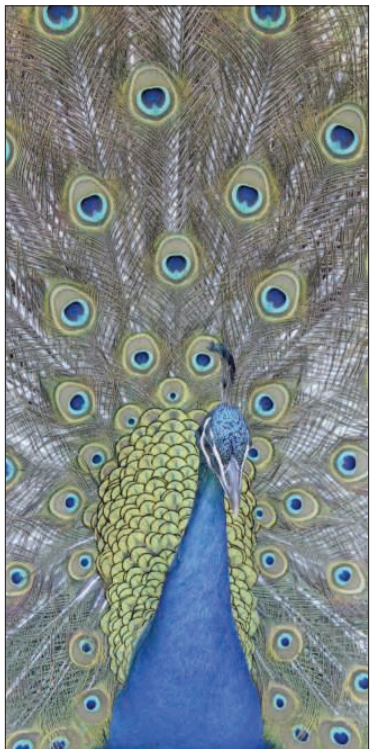
Quiet changes

IA DAVENPORT — Some school districts are quietly adding sexual orientation to their anti-discrimination policies, largely avoiding the controversy that such a move might have generated several years ago. Davenport and North Scott schools recently joined a list of 15 other districts that now protect gay students.

Critics say all students are protected under discrimination and harassment policies.



Nothing left Nancy Noot looks through rubble on her farm near Marion, N.D., that was destroyed by a tornado.



Showing his true colors Botanical Garden in Arcadia, Calif.

A peacock wanders at the Los Angeles Arboretum and



A sweet snack

A butterfly feeds off the flowers of a Buddleia, or butterfly bush, on a sunny afternoon in Marlton, N.J.



Dreaded checkup

Babec, a 24-year-old, 400-pound silverback gorilla at Alabama's Birmingham Zoo, undergoes a transesophageal echocardiogram and a dental examination.



Flag waving
following a visit Tuesday.

Sailors onboard the Mexican tall ship *Cauhtemoc* salute as they leave Boston Harbor



Sleeping on the job

North Carolina State Rep. John Blust, R-Greensboro, takes a nap during the final hours of the 2003-04 session of the General Assembly.

Building a bridge

NJ SOUTHAMPTON — A key highway link between Philadelphia and the Jersey Shore was restored with the opening of a temporary bridge on Route 70. The bridge spanning Friendship Creek was washed out by floodwaters that ravaged portions of southern New Jersey a week ago. Officials hope to have a permanent replacement in operation by Labor Day weekend.

Ex-governor remembered

GA ATLANTA — Officials paid their respects to former Gov. George Busbee as his body lay in state at the Capitol rotunda. Gov. Sonny Perdue and former Govs. Carl Sanders and Joe Frank Harris led Georgia's official delegation. Busbee, who was governor from 1975 to 1983, died last week of an apparent heart attack. He was 76.

Lottery booms

MN WEST ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Lottery generated a record \$100 million for the state last year, Gov. Pawlenty said. Profits are up about 20 percent from the previous year. Acting Director Mike Vekich credited increased sales and cost-cutting moves. The news comes during a year when the lottery's founding director died and the legislative auditor issued a scathing report.

Limit on junk food

UT HEBER CITY — The Wasatch School District has become the first in Utah to limit sales of sweets and junk food to pupils. The policy as originally proposed would have completely banned soda pop and candy in vending machines. As adopted, it requires 70 percent of student vending machine offerings to be water, milk, 100 percent fruit juices and food meeting the district's minimum nutritional standards.

Rio not so grande

NM BOSQUE FARMS — The Rio Grande is drying out in a stretch south of Albuquerque, and biologists are working on what's become an annual event — rescuing endangered Rio Grande minnows stranded in isolated pools of water.

Early on a recent morning, Mike Hatch and Keith Basham and other teens were dragging minnows through the pools, searching for the tiny minnows, in 23 miles of the river that have dried out between Isleta Pueblo and Elephant Butte. "Lots of things are perishing out here," said Basham. "There's a lot we can't do."

Rewarded for integrity

FL MIAMI — A guilt-ridden fugitive who turned himself in after 20 years served just 45 days in prison for drug smuggling because a judge was moved by the man's integrity.

Rene Alzugaray-Cira, 62, who had been held in Miami's Federal Detention Center since he turned himself in last month, could have been sentenced to 10 years.

"Go home to your daughter and your little grandbabies and live out the rest of your life," Senior U.S. District Judge James Lawrence King said Thursday in sentencing Alzugaray to time served.

Alzugaray was arrested in 1984

after he was found on a boat loaded with marijuana. He pleaded guilty — though in court this week he said he was never a smuggler — but skipped his sentencing.

"I was scared," he said. "I panicked because I thought I would be going to prison for a long time."

For two decades, Alzugaray built lobster traps and picked vegetables in Florida. But in the past year, he reunited with his adult daughter, who urged him to turn himself in to ease his troubled conscience.

Cops accused in beating

NY NEW YORK — Three police officers were arraigned on charges that they beat a taxi driver near a Brooklyn mosque and then made false statements about what happened.

James Feola, Gregory Hepp and Francis Sanzone pleaded innocent to charges of second-degree assault during an appearance Friday in Brooklyn Supreme Court. Hepp and Feola also face perjury charges for allegedly making false sworn statements accusing the driver of assaulting them.

If convicted of assault, each of the officers could face seven years in prison.

The alleged beating occurred March 8 outside a mosque on Fulton Street in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section, after the officers gave Boris Nkari, 31, a \$15 ticket for double-parking, authorities said.

It really works

WV MARTINSBURG — Joyce Stewart likely won't attempt first aid on herself again.

On Monday morning, Stewart used 3M's liquid bandage to treat a crack on her heel and within minutes her foot was glued to the floor. It took three paramedics more than an hour and a bottle of baby oil to free her.

The 59-year-old woman had positioned her left foot so that her heel was off the floor and applied the liquid to the back of her foot. Without realizing, the liquid had run from the back to the ball of her foot before she placed her foot flat on the floor.

With a knife, she tried to loosen the liquid's grasp on her foot. But after her foot started to bleed, Stewart said she realized it was no laughing matter.

A 3M spokeswoman did not have an immediate comment.

Students sue over MCAT

CA OAKLAND — Four learning-disabled students sued the organization that administers the medical school admission test, alleging they were denied extra time to take the exam in violation of California's disability laws.

The discrimination lawsuit, filed Monday in Alameda County Superior Court, argues that students who have trouble reading can learn to practice medicine if they receive enough time and a distraction-free setting in which to complete the Medical College Admission Test.

Pierce and the other students allege that they asked the Association of American Medical Colleges to give them more time to take the MCATs in April but were turned down because the organization said their disabilities were not severe enough.

Stories and photos from wire services

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Tighten motorists' rules, too

As a rider of more than 20 years with no accidents and from all of the experience I have in riding a motorcycle, I feel that Pacific Air Forces has gotten out of hand with all of the rules they want to impose on riders ("PACAF tightens, brightens motorcycle rules," July 15).

Wearing a reflective vest has not protected me from dogs, armadillos and other animals coming in the path of my motorcycle; only the vast amount of experience and paying close attention to my surroundings has done that. Why not talk to the people who have almost rear-ended me on my bike and afterward said: "I saw you, but I was following too close to be able to stop in time" as he clipped the rear turn signal on my bike. It could have been worse — and it was not for me paying attention to where I was and what I was doing, it would have been worse. I might add that, at the time, I was not wearing a reflective vest and it would not have made a difference.

If PACAF officials want to impose rules like these they should issue all of the safety gear to riders on base, tenant units and contractors alike. I understand that \$10.25 is an insignificant amount of money to spend on one piece of safety gear, but it still adds up. If you have to purchase a helmet, which costs anywhere from \$70 to \$300, boots are \$35 to \$50, riding clothes are another \$200, gloves are \$25 to \$50 and now a reflective vest.

If PACAF officials want to take a more proactive approach to increasing motorcycle safety, why don't they pay for all of this equipment? If they want to impose these requirements, they should be willing to pay the costs and maybe in the future they will think more seriously about making rash decisions involving motorcycle riders.

It seems like they want to put the entire burden of safety on the motorcycle rider and not on the motorist who is distracted by talking on a cell phone, eating, drinking, putting on makeup, watching videos or reading while driving. I have seen all of these distractions on base while riding my motorcycle.

Why not give motorists safety courses to increase awareness of Japan's prison work? The size of the privately owned vehicle that they are qualified to operate. Another idea would be to make it required that all oc-

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cupants of a vehicle wear reflective vests so that when they are thrown from a vehicle while not wearing a seat belt it makes it easier for the rescue workers to find the bodies.

It sure would be nice if the people making the decisions for us would let us voice our opinion before making decisions for everybody.

Mike Kozlowski

Osan Air Base, South Korea

Compassion? Look at source

Regarding the July 18 article "Ex-Marine decries nature of Japan prison work" (Japan and Okinawa editions): I cannot help but feel infuriated with Rodrico Harp, a convicted rapist, and Michael Griffith, the lawyer defending Mr. Harp.

According to the aforementioned article, Mr. Harp (along with former PCF Kendrick Ledet and former Navy Seaman Marcus Gill) have been convicted of raping a 12-year-old girl. What right does he have to complain about this supposed slave labor doled out to him in that Japanese prison?

Wait, let me read his mind. Is it because the hate, Mr. Harp is no longer human.

He (as well as his cohorts) is a sick-minded rapist. Was his victim human? Is he complaining about making cellular phones or automotive parts like Mr. Harp did in prison? Can he share with me how he really feels?

One would think Mr. Harp would be thankful that he learned something and got out of prison alive; however, he still feels that he was mistreated. Was his victim mistreated? Did his victim have a choice then, when she was being mistreated?

Mr. Harp (and Mr. Ledet and Mr. Gill as well) shouldn't be too fast to complain about his "slave labor" because he himself has yet to even punish him.

My advice to Mr. Harp:

■ He should seek treatment because he has a sick mind — plus, he's a danger to society.

■ He should drop his potential lawsuit, he got off easy. Martha Stewart received a harsher sentence than he did.

■ He should attend services in whatever religious denomination he chooses — he's going to need all the prayers in the world when his number is called. He'd better pray that the higher power is not female.

As for Mr. Griffith, I guess everyone needs to make a living, correct? It's too bad that his income is made on the backs of former servicemen who've disgraced their branch of service.

Paul J. Rabago

Chalan Paga, Guam

Rapists' sentences were light

I cannot help but comment on the July 18 article describing how "unfortunate" Rodrico Harp's prison term went ("Ex-Marine decries nature of Japan prison work," Japan and Okinawa editions). Mr. Harp, Kendrick Ledet and Marcus Gill took an innocent 12-year-old local Okinawan schoolgirl and robbed her of her childhood as they viciously raped her. Now New York-based lawyer Michael Griffith asserts that "Japan is in gross violation of international law by forcing prisoners to work for commercial companies.... It amounts to slave labor, nothing less."

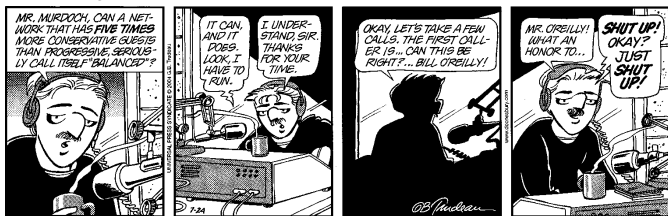
Personally, I think these ex-servicemen got off way too easy. Making a few car parts is a pretty small price to pay for such a heinous crime.

David P. Murphy

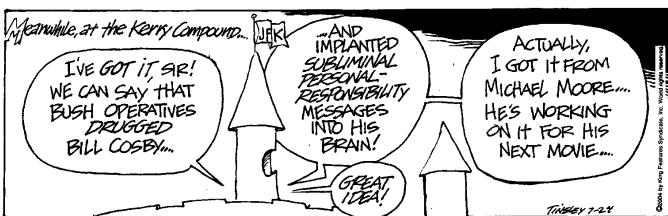
Camp Lester, Okinawa

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury



Mallard Fillmore



TIMOTHY T-24

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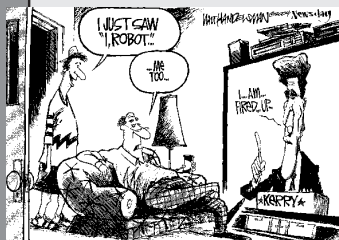
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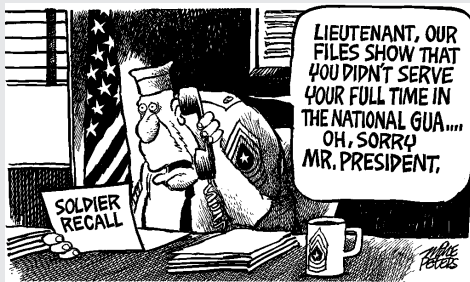
A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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Horoscope

The first weekend under the Leo sun is bursting with excitement, new plot twists and budding relationships. The moon enters Scorpio in the early evening, shrouding the night in a fog of sexual tension and sensual awareness. If you've been wondering what a loved one is thinking, you'll now figure it out without having to ask.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 24): Paradoxically, when you crack down on your self-discipline, you experience a new level of freedom. A major personal goal is reached in August.

Travel in September includes new job opportunities. Big money in October is born from a lucky deal. You could marry in November or March of next year. Cancer and Aries are sincere and exciting partners.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Now talents are featured. There's the tiniest inkling in the back of your mind that says, "Maybe I could do that," but you have no evidence of your actual aptitude. Use your Aries bravery to jump in and risk being rotten at first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Society is the issue. Things that made you feel safe before (job, money, relationships) are fragile, transitory states in life that can't be counted fully. The real security is the creative power of the universe that holds the planets in orbit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're developing excellent communication with your inner circle, which makes your whole world more smooth.

Part of the process is admitting when you've been dishonest, even if it was something small.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Consistent effort toward a goal is more reliable than a whimsical wish. Travel, even close by, is uplifting.

Don't worry now about what you can afford. When you return home, you've got much more than what you started with.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've been doing some sabotaging themselves, but you never thought you were one of them. However, now

you may feel like disconnecting from the exact people you need to stay connected. With. Resist! Stay connected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Flow with the changes that are coming at you from all sides. The

shifting from old to new is exciting and a bit stressful, too. Reach out. Have conversations with friends. It helps to know that others are going through the same thing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You make sense of other people's ideas, fleshing out the details and taking things to a practical level. Spend time with people who can appreciate your brilliance. A loved one soon returns to your arms happier than ever.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Show-and-tell skills are required! Sure, you're out in the real world, pursuing grown-up causes, but these grade-school talents are still as valuable as they ever were in the cause of winning friends and influencing people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This will be a lively day of rejuvenation and anticipation. Your ego is inflated by praise — it's lovely to be recognized by people you respect. You continue to grow closer to what it is you meant to do in the first place.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're feeling rather aggressive, but it can be put to a very positive end. Grab the horns of life like you're not afraid of being hurt, and you'll make the most of this lucky day. Don't back off when you manifest what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll see profits from things begun on your own and in secret. Let the energy percolate inside you instead of dissipating it by telling too many people. An hour or two on your project is enough to push it ahead considerably.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Socially, you are quite in demand. But spreading yourself too thin is a danger. When your concentration is so inflated, you'll miss an opportunity to connect on any real level with even one person.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



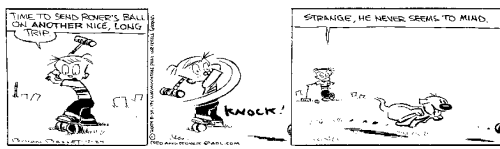
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



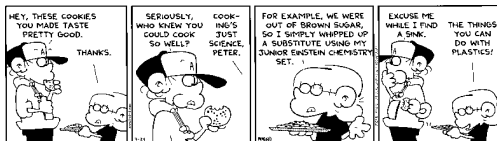
Better or Worse



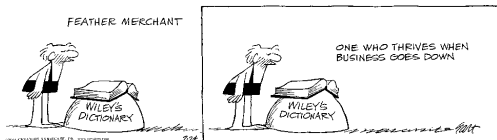
Peanuts



Fox trot



B.C.



Baby Bites



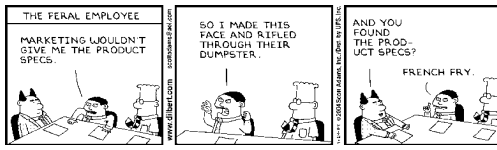
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



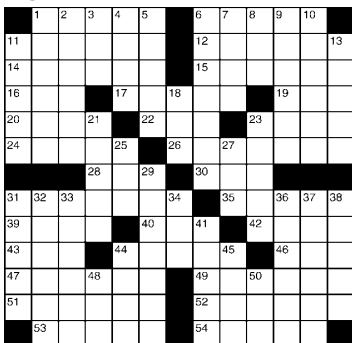
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Tourney format
- 6 Bridge coups
- 11 Big shock
- 12 Fans' wall art
- 14 Chinese menu item
- 15 "Call of the Wild" author
- 16 In an env.
- 17 Myth, for one
- 19 Nanci ("Milkado" character)
- 20 On
- 22 Perched
- 23 Grain storage structure
- 24 "H*A*S*H" locale
- 26 Least exciting
- 28 L times VI
- 30 "Uplume" writer
- 31 Hybrid fuel
- 35 Millennium fractions
- 39 Brooklyn-born actor Omar
- 40 Dermatologist's concern
- 42 Get ready (for)
- 43 Plata's partner
- 44 Comedian Leary
- 46 Perfect serve
- 47 Castle tower
- 48 Chocolate candy
- 51 Participate (in)
- 52 It may have a shadow over it
- 53 Replace a button
- 54 "Boler" composer

Down

- 1 Without further ado
- 2 Ill will
- 3 Chic no more
- 4 Cupid's field
- 5 Barber's challenges
- 6 Go your separate ways
- 7 Serengeti roamer
- 8 Agriculture Secretary
- 9 Veneman
- 9 Backyard "dessert"
- 10 Seanstress' supply
- 11 Make adjustments
- 13 Beezer
- 18 Blue
- 21 Rio Grande feeder
- 23 Colteridge called it "a gentle thing"
- 25 Interlaken interjection
- 27 Powell co-star
- 29 Put one over on
- 31 Rock cavity
- 32 Cookwear
- 33 Mooch
- 34 Vietnam Memorial designer Maya
- 36 Fit for farming
- 37 Finch
- 38 Shell out
- 41 River of Rome
- 44 Venetian magistrate
- 45 Sauce source
- 48 Mandible
- 50 Sagebrush St.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-24

CRYPTOQUIP

RS Z NMX RU RHGA
ZGDTRUO. XAM ORNDG
UZX DT'U QZPG AS Z

HAHQPAQDTG APNZHRVZGRAH.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I SUPPOSE YOU MIGHT CALL A BULLET PRODUCTION COMPANY'S PRESIDENT A BIG SHOT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals N

Penny-pinching husband exhausting

Dear Abby: My husband, "Ollie," and I are in our late 40s and have been married 25 years. The first five were rocky, but we made it work — and then the children came along.

Ollie has become so controlling I can hardly breathe.

I work 55 hours a week. My only extravagance is buying coffee and a snack and lunch at work a couple of times a week. Ollie demands to know where every penny goes and what I'm "wasting" it on.

We are not destitute. He has his own business. I am emotionally drained. He refuses to go to counseling.

The moment I get home in the evening, he starts berating me. He isn't hitting me, but I feel beaten emotionally. Can I verbal abusers become physical abusers? Should I see a lawyer? Without outside intervention, how can we survive?

— Tired of the Battle in Michi-

Dear Tired: Yes, verbal abuse can escalate to physical abuse. The stress is taking its toll on you. If you continue, Ollie will survive, but you may not. You feel "beaten" because, emotionally, that's what's happening.

The only person you can make it stop is you.

Your husband will not be thrilled when you finally stand up for yourself, so be prepared. Make a list of his bank accounts, assets, Social Security and driver's license numbers. Then consult an attorney who specializes in family law. Once Ollie has been put on notice that the marriage is over if he isn't willing to get help for his problem, he may be more receptive to counseling. And at that point, you'll have to decide whether you and the children are better off with him or without him.

Dear Abby: I was recently invited to a baby shower for an

acquaintance. As she opened her gifts, a girlfriend sitting next to her wrote down the name of the gift-giver and the item on a sheet of paper. At the same time, this friend was also penning thank-you notes to each giver! At the end of the shower, the mommy-to-be signed each note, "Love, 'X'" — and handed them to each giver.

How should a person react to something like that? My first reaction was that this woman should receive no more of my time, since my attendance and my gift were not worth a personal thank-you note and a 37-cent stamp.

— Confused in Troy, Mich.

Dear Confused: Could the honoree be functionally illiterate? If that's the case, you should not have been offended. If she's not, however, it's clear the mommy-to-be is socially ignorant, and I'm sure you weren't the only guest who was offended.

Letters for this column — with your name and address — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69410, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.ueexpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



is over if he isn't willing to get help for his problem, he may be more receptive to counseling. And at that point, you'll have to decide whether you and the children are better off with him or without him.

Dear Abby: I was recently invited to a baby shower for an

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VORAF

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DUPON

NIRVEM

EDMERE

Ans:

Jumbles: WEARY PARTY BEAVER MALTED

Answer: Why the peer visited the library — TO "READ" BETTER

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron
The 800-900 nos. have been discontinued.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE

(Answers Monday)

Visiting the dying can give comfort

Dear Annie: Recently, the father of a good friend of mine (I'll call her "Natalie") was diagnosed with terminal cancer and sent home on hospice care. A mutual friend told me that doctors don't expect Natalie's father to live more than a month.

I have been close to Natalie's father, not necessarily to say goodbye, but to talk to him one more time. I am hesitant to do so because I do not know if he wants visitors, and I'm not sure what I would say. What exactly do you talk about with someone who doesn't have much longer to live?

— Sorrowful in Pennsylvania
Dear Sorrowful: Call Natalie, and ask if her father is up to having you visit. If not, send a "thinking of you" card, and continue to call regularly for updates.

If Natalie encourages you to

Annie's Mailbox



visit, you don't have to say much.

Your presence will provide comfort, even if you simply hold his hand, rub his back or feet, chat about wonderful memories you share, etc. It's also good to tell him how much you care about him. If he wants to talk about his illness, simply listen, but let him be the one to bring it up.

Dear Annie: My husband of 20 years had an affair with a co-worker that lasted about a year. In the midst of his affair, his job relocated us to Chicago, which obviously made his extracurricular activities more difficult. A few months after our relocation, he finally confessed what I had suspected for months.

We had marriage counseling, and things seemed better, but I was so hurt and insecure at the time that I would have done anything to save the marriage.

Three months ago, I met an attractive man who is exciting,

but he's very mysterious and does not share a whole lot with me. On the other hand, I have shared my thoughts, hopes and dreams with this man. We are not having an affair, but I can't stop thinking about him. The idea of sleeping with him thrills me. It's wrong, I know, and it would be so hypocritical of me to do it, but I can't get him out of my head. How can I overcome these feelings?

— Chicago

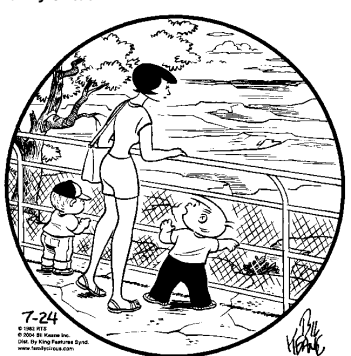
Dear Chicago: You have not actually forgiven your husband for his affair, nor have you gotten past it. It is natural that you would be attracted to someone who epitomizes the romance-novel notion of a good-looking, mysterious stranger.

You must decide if you want to stay married or not. Go back to your marriage counselor, alone if necessary, and work it out.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox.comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5771 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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Family Circus



7-24

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"The ranger said the river dug the canyon, Mommy, and you said God did it. Who's right?"

GRAFFITI

Rain is caused by high-pressure areas, cold fronts and weekends

1994 7/24

Dennis the Menace



"I GUESS THEY PUT PICTURES ON THE SIGNS CAUSE THEY CAN'T READ."

@Gary Larson

The Far Side



"Oh, for the love of—there goes Henry! ... Rita, you're closest to him—give that c-clamp about a quarter turn, will ya?"

Non Sequitur



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RACING STRIPES

A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS

Sunday drive a near disaster for Little E

Like many other drivers, Earnhardt will race anywhere, no matter the risk

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

Dale Earnhardt Jr. spends most of his time scrunched inside the cockpit of a stock car, on a high-speed chase for a NASCAR Nextel Cup championship.

Add up 38 races a year, qualifying, practice and test sessions, Earnhardt probably spends about 700 hours a year in his No. 8 Chevrolet.

So when a free weekend opens up on his schedule, why would the son of the late Dale Earnhardt fly across the country to compete in an American Le Mans Series race?

"Driving race cars is what I love doing," Earnhardt Jr. said when announcing his participation in last Sunday's race at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif.

But what was supposed to be a fun, relaxing spin in a Corvette CS-R turned into a frightening accident during practice that could have jeopardized his regular job. His car burst into flames, burning him on his chin and legs.

Earnhardt slumped over his steering wheel as the flames engulfed him, and it took several moments for him to scramble out of the car.

Back home in North Carolina, Earnhardt is resting while his Dale Earnhardt Inc. team prepares to race this weekend at New Hampshire International Speedway.

Second in the driver standings, Earnhardt cannot afford to sit out of Sunday's race. Since NASCAR does not have a substitute driver rule, Earnhardt must start the race to earn points and stay in contention for his first championship.

DEI plans to have Martin Truex Jr. on



Dale Earnhardt Jr. leaps from his burning Corvette CS-R after crashing during practice for the American Le Mans Series Infineon Grand Prix of Sonoma on Sunday, in Sonoma, Calif. Earnhardt, who is in contention for the Nextel Cup title, suffered only minor injuries.

standby in case Earnhardt can't finish. Truex has never competed in a Nextel Cup event, but he has tested at New Hampshire to prepare for his series debut there in September.

Still, using Truex as an injury replacement is not the ideal scenario for Earnhardt or DEI.

In hindsight, Earnhardt probably should have spent his last off weekend of the season at the beach or in the mountains. Heck, even sitting on his couch in his living room would have been a better idea than competing in a race that meant nothing to DEI or the sponsors who pay millions for Earnhardt to drive his red Chevrolet.

But that's not how racers live their lives. "It's what we grew up doing," said NASCAR veteran Ken Schrader, who races in about 60 non-Nextel Cup events. "If you just race on Cup weekends, then it's

your job. But racing is still my hobby. It's what I love to do. It seems like if there's a weekend and there's a race, then I'm supposed to be in it."

Earnhardt inherited that characteristic from his father, who was killed in a last-lap wreck in the 2001 Daytona 500. Dale Earnhardt introduced his son to extracurricular events, and the two even raced a Corvette together in the Rolex 24 at Daytona International Speedway about a month before the fatal crash.

Besides continuing the family business as the top driver at DEI, Earnhardt Jr. has made occasional appearances in non-NASCAR events.

Before Sunday, he most recently had teamed with fellow NASCAR star Tony Stewart and Britain's Andy Wallace to nearly win the Rolex race in February.

So he jumped at the opportunity to join

road racing specialist Boris Said last weekend. Even from his hospital bed when he woke up, he didn't second-guess the decision.

"I'm hummed out and disappointed I couldn't run the race," Earnhardt said in a statement.

But future extracurricular activities will surely be scrutinized.

Budweiser, the primary sponsor of Earnhardt's NASCAR ride, won't prevent him from competing in future races.

"Although there is always risk in all forms of motorsports, we support Dale Jr.'s efforts to become the most successful driver he can be," said Tony Ponturo of Budweiser.

DEI officials might not feel the same way.

But if Earnhardt is anything like his father — and so far, his toughness, determination and desire indicates he is — it will be hard for anyone to keep him out of a race car.

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 19: Siemens 300, 3 a.m. Monday, AFN-Pacific/Korea

Last race: Tony Stewart won the Toyota 400 at Chicagoland Speedway on July 11, but it was marred by a wreck with rookie Kasey Kahne that touched off a fight in the pits. Following a restart, Stewart passed Sterling Marlin on the outside and sidled in behind race leader Kahne before tapping him into the

wall. NASCAR fined Tommy Baldwin, Kahne's crew chief, \$10,000 and put him on probation for his role in the fight.

Last race: Jimmie Johnson stretched his final tank of fuel for 93 laps and held on to win the New Hampshire 300.

DRIVERS TO WATCH

Jeff Gordon A three-time winner at New Hampshire, he has led 1,046 laps and has the lead in 12 of 16 races here. He's finished in the top 5 in four of the past five Cup races.

Dale Jarrett He'll try to stay in the chase for the championship in the Nextel Cup standings. He could finish last week's race with a strong run at NHIS, where he won in 2001.

Bobby Labonte He will try to stay in the chase for the championship without crew chief Michael McQuay. He could finish last week's race with a strong run at NHIS, where he won in 2004.



Qualifying record
Ryan Newman 133.367 mph, 2003.

Race record
Jeff Burton, 117.134 mph, July 13, 1997.

FAST FACTS

A green-and-white checkered format will debut this week. An attempt to get all Nextel Cup and Busch events to end with the cars racing. Races can no longer finish under yellow. If there is another caution after a green-flag restart, the race will end immediately.

Jimmie Johnson swept both races at New Hampshire last season after winning the Daytona 300 on Sept. 14.

POINTS RACE

After 18 of 36 races

1. Jimmie Johnson 2,720
2. Dale Earnhardt Jr. 2,615
3. Jeff Gordon 2,478
4. Tony Stewart 2,418
5. Matt Kenseth 2,321
6. Bobby Labonte 2,278
7. Elliott Sauter 2,252
8. Kevin Harvick 2,211
9. Kurt Busch 2,211
10. Ryan Newman 2,173
11. Jeremy McQuay 2,108
12. Dale Jarrett 2,063
13. Dale Earnhardt 2,063
14. Casey Mears 2,044
15. Mark Martin 2,035
16. Casey Mears 1,998
17. Rusty Wallace 1,965
18. Michael Waltrip 1,960
19. Sterling Marlin 1,941
20. Brian Vickers 1,913

BUSCH SERIES

This week: Siemens 200 at Loudon, N.H. (Tape-delayed, 7 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Pacific).

Last race: With his father, Tony, looking on, Justin Labonte got his first Busch victory in the Toyota Twister 300 in July 11. On July 10, Labonte took the lead on the final lap after Mike Wallace ran out of gas.

Last year: David Green held off a hard charge from Kevin Harvick to win at New Hampshire International Speedway and retake the lead in the Busch standings.

INDY RACING

This week: Mercedes A.J. Foyt Indy 225 at West Allis, Wis. (Tape-delayed, 6:30 p.m. Monday, AFN-Pacific).

Last race: Tony Kanaan became the first driver to win three Indy titles this season after winning the Firestone Indy 300 at Nashville Superspeedway. Kanaan is the standings leader at the mid-way point of the season, holding a 61-point advantage over Dan Wheldon.

Last year: Inaugural event.

FORMULA ONE

This week: German Grand Prix at Hockenheim.

Last race: Michael Schumacher won for the 10th time in 11 races with his victory in the British Grand Prix on July 11.

and moved within one victory of his season record of 11 set in 2002. His only loss of 2004 came at Monaco on May 23.

Last year: Juan Pablo Montoya won the German Grand Prix, speeding away after a crash on the opening lap that eliminated Kimi Raikkonen, Ralf Schumacher and Rubens Barrichello. Michael Schumacher had a flat tire while in second place and ended up seventh.

CHAMP CARS

This week: Molson Indy Vancouver in British Columbia, Canada. (Tape-delayed, 4 p.m. Tuesday, AFN-Pacific).

Last race: Sebastian Bourdais led all but the end of the 84 laps and won the Grand Prix of Toronto on July 11 for his third straight victory. He was penalized twice by race officials.

Last year: Tracy became the first driver in 14 years to win at Vancouver after taking the Toronto event. Michael Andretti previously did it in 1992.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK

Last race: David Starr became only the second truck driver to win by leading only the final lap in the Dodge Ram Truck 200 in Madison, Ill. The race was shortened for rain laps, but was extended by a caution a record four times for 14

Next race: Truck Budweiser 200, July 31, Brooklyn, Mich.

Sierra's homer is just enough for Yanks' win

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ruben Sierra gave the New York Yankees a victory after Orlando Hernandez gave the trail pitching rotation a big boost heading into a weekend series at Boston's Fenway Park.

After El Duque bewildered Toronto for seven innings, Sierra homered with two outs in the ninth to lift New York over the Toronto Blue Jays 1-0 on Thursday for a two-game sweep.

Ted Lilly pitched 6 1/2 innings against his former team, and New York was outlasted 5-3 before the ninth.

After Vinnie Chulk (0-2) struck out Gary Sheffield and Alex Rodriguez, Sierra connected for his 12th homer.

Hernandez, who won his first two starts, allowed four hits, walked one and struck out 10.

Tom Gordon pitched the eighth and Mariano Rivera (1-0) completed the five-hit victory with a one-hit ninth.

Orlones 8, Red Sox 3: Melvin Mora homered twice and drove in four runs and Rodrigo Lopez (8-6) baffled host Boston in the opener of a day-night doubleheader. Miguel Tejada added a two-run homer for Baltimore, which won its fourth straight.

Kevin Millar hit a two-run homer and slow-footed David Ortiz had two triples for Boston. The Red Sox have lost three consecutive home games for the first time this season.

Lopez gave up one run and 10 hits in six innings, improving to 3-0 against Boston this year and 8-2 in his career.

Bucky Groom pitched two innings and allowed Miller's homer before Jorge Julio worked a hitless ninth.

Abe Alvarez (0-1) lost his major league debut after being recalled from Double-A Portland before the game. He gave up five runs and eight hits in five innings,

with five walks and two strikeouts.

Royals 13, Tigers 7: Mike Sweeney hit a grand slam and a three-run homer for visiting Kansas City. Ken Harvey also connected for the Royals, who snapped a three-game losing streak and won for just the 13th time in 44 road games. Sweeney's slam in the second and three-run homer in the eighth gave him a career-high seven RBIs, matching a club record.

Twins 7, Devil Rays 5: Michael Cuddyer hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning and Nick Punto had a grand slam for host Minnesota.

Rocco Baldelli tied it 5-5 with his first career grand slam for the Devil Rays, who have lost 12 of 17. Cuddyer connected on an 0-2 pitch from Travis Harper (2-2) leading off the eighth, and Minnesota added a run on an error by right fielder Jose Cruz Jr.

In Wednesday's AL games:

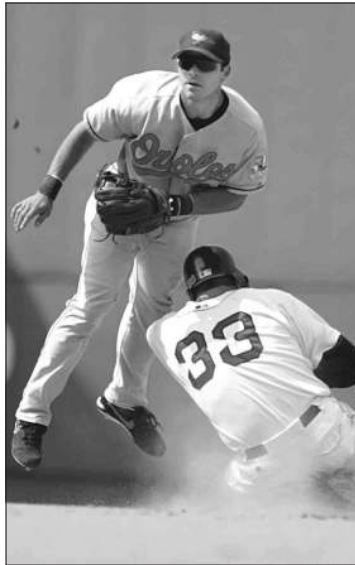
Rangers 3, Angels 2: Ryan Langerhans hit a two-run homer, an impressive home start for Texas, which is seeking its first AL West title since 1999.

Drese is having the best season of his short career. He has a 3.58 ERA in 128 1/3 innings — a major step forward compared to his combined 6.63 ERA over the past two seasons. On Wednesday night, Drese held the Angels to two runs on five hits.

Orlones 10, Red Sox 5: Miguel Tejada drove in five runs for visiting Baltimore and David Newhan hit an inside-the-park home run.

Newhan's drive went off the center-field wall as Johnny Damon tried to make a leaping catch. He grabbed the ball on the warning track and threw toward third, but left fielder Manny Ramirez dove and cut off the ball in short center. Ramirez threw to shortstop Mark Bellhorn, who relayed to catcher Jason Varitek as Newhan slid in safely.

White Sox 14, Indians 0: Mark Buehrle retired the first 19 bat-



Boston baserunner Jason Varitek is out at second as Baltimore Orioles second baseman Brian Roberts throws to first to complete a double play in the sixth inning of Thursday's first game of a day-night doubleheader at Boston's Fenway Park. The Orioles won the opener 8-3.

ters and faced the minimum 27 to lead visiting Chicago over the Indians.

Buehrle (10-3) didn't allow a runner until Omar Vizquel lined a 3-2 pitch out of the reach of shortstop Jose Valentin with one out in the seventh inning. Buehrle struck out four, walked none and was aided by two double plays.

Carlos Lee homered twice and Valentin added a two-run shot for the White Sox, who took control with a six-run fifth.

Mariners 6, Athletics 5 (10): Bucky Jacobsen homered in the 10th inning, hitting his third homer of the season in just 21 major league at-bats.

Mark Kotsay, Bobby Crosby and Damian Miller homered for visiting Oakland.

Yankees 10, Blue Jays 3: Gary

Sheffield hit a three-run homer, and Enrique Wilson also connected for host New York.

Javier Vazquez (11-6) pitched six innings to beat Pat Hentgen (2-9).

Tigers 4, Royals 2: Ivan Rodriguez, Rondell White and Marcus Thames homered to back Mike Maroth.

Maroth (7-7) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings. Deshaun Holifield homered for the visiting Royals in their third straight loss.

Twins 12, Devil Rays 2: Backup catcher Henry Blanco went 3-for-4 with a homer and three RBIs and the host Twins got a season-high 17 hits. Luis Rivas hit a three-run homer, Justin Morneau had three hits and an RBI, and Lew Ford homered.

Colon leads Angels' win over Texas

By Stephen Hawkins

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Bartolo Colon allowed just three singles in seven innings against Texas' powerful lineup, and the Anaheim Angels beat the AL West-leading Rangers 11-1 on Thursday.

Robb Quinlan had four hits for the Angels, who snapped a four-game losing streak and won for only the second time in seven games. The Rangers lost in the same stretch since the All-Star break.

Third-place Anaheim is five games behind Texas.

All but three of Anaheim's 17 hits were singles.

Colon (8-8) has given up a league-high 28 homers, but he limited Texas — tied with the New York Yankees for the major league lead with 145 homers — to two singles by Eric Young and Laynce Nix's run-scoring hit in the seventh.

Rangers starter Ricardo Rodriguez (3-1) had his right elbow broken when he was struck by Quinlan's liner to start the fourth.

Colon won his third straight decision, holding the Rangers without a run. Texas' one-out infield single on a slow roller down the third-base line in the fifth. Quinlan made a clean play and threw to first, but Young beat the throw by a step.

The right-hander struck out six and walked three, throwing 106 pitches on a sunny day with the temperature in the 90s.

In the seventh, Colon walked Mark Teixeira, and Young and Nix had consecutive singles for Texas' only run. Colon was replaced by Brendan Donnelly to start the eighth. He and Kevin Gregg finished the fourth outter.

Quinlan was 4-for-5 with a run and two RBIs, including an RBI double in Anaheim's four-run ninth.

In the Angels' first, Jeff D'Amico drew a one-out walk, stole second and came home on Garrett Anderson's single.

Anaheim built a 4-0 lead with four straight two-out singles in the second.

Stand: Other athletes have carried out protests silently

STAND, FROM BACK PAGE

Delgado, from Puerto Rico, also opposed the U.S. military's longtime use of the Puerto Rican island of Vieques for weapons testing.

Delgado's opinion became more well known to New York fans in a column in The New York Times on Wednesday. In it, he said, "It takes a man to stand up for what he believes."

"I am not pro-war; I'm

anti-war," he said. "I'm for peace."

Commissioner Bud Selig said he understood Delgado's position and that it was a sensitive subject. Selig said he'd also told the Blue Jays franchise leader in home runs and RBIs about the issue.

Other athletes have taken similar approaches.

NBA guard Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf of the Denver Nuggets would not stand for the na-

tional anthem during the 1995-96 season, which led to an indefinite suspension that was lifted two days later.

Division III basketball player Tom Smith of the Manhattanville women's team attracted attention for refusing to face the flag during the national anthem during the 2002-03 season.

Most ballplayers generally play "God Bless America" on Sunday and holidays, but the Yankees do it at every game. It comes on after Sheppard, the stadium's

longtime public-address announcer, reads a remembrance to the people serving in the military.

There was a chance during this series Delgado realized, that he might make the final out in the top of the seventh and be on the field when the tribute begins.

"This is my personal feeling. I don't want to draw attention to myself or go out of my way to protest," Delgado told the Times.

"If I make the last out of the seventh inning, I'll stand there. But I'd rather be in the dugout."

Blue Jays General Manager J.P. Ricciardi said the team has not gotten any reaction from fans about Delgado's position. Team president Paul Godfrey has said he respects Delgado's opinion but opposes his political view.

Standing in the box seats, Yankees fan Barry Phillips disagreed with Delgado, but said he would not boo him.

"I think it's totally disrespectful," he said shortly before game time. "It's a slap directly in my face, as a New Yorker and an American."

Braves back in first place

Atlanta ties Philadelphia after its 10-inning victory

BY KEITH PARSONS

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Frustrated lately with his lack of production, Johnny Estrada had the perfect situation to help get him back on track.

He drove in the winning run with a bases-loaded sacrifice fly in the 10th inning, leading the Atlanta Braves past the Pittsburgh Pirates 2-1 Thursday.

"Bases loaded, no outs, there's no excuse for not getting the job done," Estrada said.

The Braves moved back into a first-place tie with the Philadelphia Phillies.

The Braves rallied against Salomon Torres (6-4), who was pitching for the first time since serving a three-game suspension for throwing twice at Oakland's Damian Miller last month.

Eli Marrero reached on an error by shortstop Jack Wilson to open the 10th, and Marlon Giles walked. Rafael Furcal bunted down the third-base line for a hit, leaving catcher Jason Kendall with no play.

Estrada, who entered as a pinch-hitter in the eighth, followed with a long fly to left to bring in Marrero. Estrada leads the majors with a 434 average with runners in scoring position, but he went 3-for-22 overall on an eight-game homestand.

Every time I get up, regardless of the position I'm in, I expect myself to have a good at-bat," Estrada said. "I don't think I've been doing that lately. I've gotten a lot of opportunities lately and I haven't been coming through."

Chris Reitsma (4-2) pitched a scoreless 10th for the win.

Atlanta starter Russ Ortiz allowed one run and six hits in eight innings but failed to win his sixth straight start.



Atlanta's Johnny Estrada (23) is congratulated by teammates, including Nick Green, right, after driving in the game-winning run with a sacrifice fly on Thursday afternoon against Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh's Kip Wells gave up one run on four hits in eight innings, and retired 11 of 12 batters at one point. Wells struck out four and had no walks.

"We went out knowing we had our work cut out for us, the way Ortiz had been pitched," Wells said. "We did what we were supposed to, but we still lost the game."

Tike Redman finished 3-for-5 for the Pirates, who lost for only the second time in seven games.

Pittsburgh nearly took the lead against Atlanta closer John Smoltz in the ninth. Jason Bay led off with a walk, then moved to second on a sacrifice. Kendall was intentionally walked, and Wilson singled sharply to center.

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Maddux dominates in 298th career win

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Greg Maddux pitched a four-hitter for his 298th career win, Moises Alou hit two of Chicago's four homers and the Cubs routed the Cincinnati Reds 13-2 Thursday.

Working quickly, Maddux (9-7) pitched his second straight complete game and 105th of his career. It was the first time he pitched back-to-back complete games since Sept. 7 and 13, 2000.

Maddux walked none and struck out six. He needed just 92 pitches in a game that took two hours, 15 minutes.

The only hitter to give him much trouble was Reds catcher Javier Valentin, who entered the game batting .182 but homered twice, one solo shot in the third and fifth innings.

Alou hit a solo homer in the second and a two-run shot in the third, giving him 24 for the season and five in his last nine games. Mark Grudzielanek had a three-run homer in the fourth off Cory Lidle, and Aramis Ramirez hit a slam into Ryan Wagner to make it 12-2 in the sixth.

Lidle (6-8) allowed 10 hits and eight runs in 4 1/2 innings and led after yielding RBI doubles to Derrek Lee and Alex Gonzalez in the fifth.

Sammy Sosa had an RBI single in the eighth to make it 13-2.

Roundup

In Thursday's other early NL games:

Expos 4, Mets 1: Tony Batista hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the top of the eighth inning to Montreal.

Brad Wilkerson added a homer for the Expos, who split the two-game series and return to Montreal after going 10-15 on a six-city, 28-day trip.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 2: Milton Bradley hit a go-ahead homer in the eighth inning and host Los Angeles pulled off another late comeback for its 15th victory in 17 games.

Colorado's Aaron Cook gave up one run and seven hits in seven innings while stranding eight batters. He handed a 2-1 lead to Tim Lincecum (4-2).

But Andrew Beltré led off the eighth with a single, and Bradley drove in a RBI pitch down the right-field line and into the second deck for his career-high 11th home run. He became the 12th player to homer into the loge level at Dodger Stadium.

Shawn Green followed with a single and scored two outs later on pinch-hitter Jason Grabowski's double.

In Wednesday's NL games:

Cardinals 1, Brewers 0: Woody Williams threw seven innings of five-hit ball in 93-degree heat in St. Louis, singled twice and scored in the Cardinals' 14th victory in their last 16 games.

Edgar Renteria hit a sixth-inning sacrifice fly for the Cardinals (60-34), who have the best record in the major leagues and have won 11 of 12 at home. Williams (7-6) outdistanced Victor Santos (9-4).

Rockies 6, Dodgers 5: In Los Angeles, Shawn Estes (10-4) won for the fourth time in five decisions. Vinny Castilla homered and Colorado snapped the Dodgers' eight-game winning streak.

It was Estes' third victory of the season over the NL West-leading Dodgers, who lost for only the second time in 16 games.

Pirates 4, Braves 2: Kris Benson made another strong start before the trade deadline, allowing five hits in eight innings to lead visiting Pittsburgh to its 17th victory in 22 games.

Benson, in the final year of his contract and not expected to re-sign with the Pirates, is being scouted by about a half-dozen teams as the July 31 deadline approaches. After the first, Benson (8-7) didn't give a hit until Andrew Jones' opposite-field single with one out in the eighth.

Phillies 2, Marlins 1: Ricky

Benitez saves Marlins

BY DAN GELSTON

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Armando Benitez really had to save for this save.

Not only were the bases loaded with one out in the eighth when Marlins manager Jack McKeon called on his closer, but Benitez had to face Jason Michaels with a 3-1 count.

"I told him, 'I put you in a tough spot, but you're the only one I know can do it,'" McKeon said.

Benitez struck out Michaels and bailed the Marlins out to save Florida's 10-8 victory Thursday over the Philadelphia Phillies.

"I have to come in right away with my first stuff," said Benitez, who then got Mike Lieberthal to fly out on the first pitch. "Everybody knows what I can do and I did it."

Alex Gonzalez and Jeff Conine each hit three-run homers, and Mike Redmond added a solo shot, helping Florida move within two games of the Phillies and Atlanta for the NL East lead.

The Marlins are 7-1 against the Phillies this year.

With the Phillies trailing 10-4, Chase Utley hit a two-run, pinch-hit homer in the eighth. He added a two-out, two-run double in the seventh that made it 10-8.

Utley also singled in the ninth, and four RBIs marked a career high.

Philadelphia's Randy Wolf (4-6) failed to go deep in the game for the fifth time in six starts. He gave up eight hits and six earned runs in four innings.

Jeter is day-to-day with minor hand injury

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York Yankees captain Derek Jeter missed his second straight game Thursday because of a

MLB briefs

Boston.

Yankees manager Joe Torre watched his All-Star shortstop take batting practice, then decided not to use him in Thursday's 1-0 win over Toronto.

"Hopefully, Jeter will be ready in a couple of days," Torre said. "Jeter, hit by a pitch Tuesday from Tampa Bay's Victor Zambrano, said he was fine, but then admitted he had a sore hand."

"Any time you get hit in the hands, because there are so many bones, you never know how bad it's going to be," Jeter said. "It could have been worse."

Jeter is hitting .277 with 14 home runs and 49 RBIs.

First baseman Jason Giambi (224 1/2 homers and 36 RBIs) spent much of the day at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center undergoing tests to find out why he has been feeling dizzy. The 2000 AL MVP, who did not start from June 26 to July 4 because of an intestinal parasite, is hitless in his last 18 at-bats.

Yankees General Manager Brian Cashman said cancer has been ruled out.

"Everything we've gotten back thus far is negative," Cashman said.

Cashman said additional results from cultures and other tests weren't available yet.

Texas starter Rodriguez has broken elbow

ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas starter Ricardo Rodriguez broke his right elbow when he was struck by a line drive in the fourth inning of the Rangers' game against the Anaheim Angels Thursday.

The right-handed Rodriguez entered the game with a streak of 15 1/2 scoreless innings, the longest by a Texas starter since 1998. That streak ended in the first inning Thursday.

Hart staying on as Rangers GM for 2005

ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas General Manager John Hart will remain in his job for 2005, a year past his current contract.

Hart and owner Tom Hicks didn't decide how long Hart will remain as GM.

"As long as necessary, I think that's probably the safest way to put it," Hart said Wednesday. "I've made it clear to him that I'm going to be here."

Hart, 56, was in the final year of his three-year contract.

"He's done a good job, and I'm excited," said manager Buck Showalter.

Showalter, who was hired after the 2002 season. "Hopefully, we can continue to make strides to get where we want to go."

Armstrong stages another victory

BY JOHN LEICESTER

The Associated Press

LE GRAND-BORNAND, France — With an amazing final burst of speed, Lance Armstrong won the 17th stage of the Tour de France on Thursday, extending his overall lead as he marches toward a record sixth straight title.

The stage victory was Armstrong's third in three days and fourth of this Tour, the fourth time he's won four times in a Tour. The Texan could get a fifth stage victory during a time trial on Saturday.

Armstrong, distinctive in the overall leader's yellow jersey, launched himself into top gear within sight of the line to sprint past German champion Andreas Kloden, winning by inches.

"No gifts this year," the five-time champion said. "I want to win."

Even Armstrong seemed to find his victory hard to believe. A wide smile on his face, he jubilantly thrust his fists into the air as he zoomed past Kloden, who had seemed destined to win until Armstrong found the extra burst of speed.

The victory, coming at the end of one of the hardest mountain stages this year, gave Armstrong bonus seconds that extended his overall lead on Italian Ivan Basso.

German Jan Ullrich was third in the sprint, followed by Basso.

Both in the mountains and, on Thursday, in a sprint, Armstrong has been in a different class than his rivals. His lead of 4 minutes, 9 seconds over Basso seemed easily carry him through to the top of the podium in Paris on Sunday.

By the end of the final climb Thursday, only Basso, Kloden and Ullrich had managed to stay with Armstrong and teammate Floyd Landis, who worked tirelessly to steer his leader up the ascent.

At the summit, Armstrong reached an arm over to Landis and gave him the green light to try to win. The finish was eight miles away, at the end of a long speedy descent.

"I spoke to Floyd at the summit and asked him, 'How fast are you in the descent?' He said, 'Very, very quick,' and I said, 'Go! go! go!'" Armstrong said.

Landis zoomed away but was quickly caught by Ullrich, which prompted Armstrong to catch up, followed by Basso and Kloden.

The five riders jostled for position as they sped through the final corners leading to the finish at Le Grand-Bornand in the Alps. As the line neared, Kloden suddenly spurred ahead and the stage seemed his.

But for Armstrong, the chance for another victory in his favorite race was simply too hard to pass up. With one final glance over his shoulder, he rocketed off in pursuit and found just enough speed to edge Kloden at the line.

"The Tour de France is so special," Armstrong said. "My form is super."

Armstrong dedicated his victory to Landis, who rode strongly for his leader Thursday but finished last in the sprint.

"I really wanted him to win the stage," the Texan said.

Armstrong now has 20 individual stage victories. He also has two collective wins,



Lance Armstrong, in the yellow jersey, leads Italy's Ivan Basso in Thursday's Tour de France stage. Armstrong won the stage.

taking the team time trial with his U.S. Postal Service squad this year and last.

The other years when Armstrong won four stages in a single Tour were 1999, his first victory after a comeback from cancer, 2001 and 2002.

Judge says cops had no reason to pull over McNair

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Prosecutors seeking a DUI conviction against Tennessee Titans quarterback Steve McNair received a blow Thursday when a judge ruled the arresting officer didn't have "sufficient basis" to pull him over.

Davidson County Criminal Court Judge Cheryl Blackburn granted McNair's request to suppress all evidence relating to the May 2003 stop, saying officer Shawn Taylor's observations did not provide "specific and articulable facts that defendant was driving under the influence."

"The court does not condone any defendant driving a vehicle with a (blood alcohol content) of .18 percent, but this court is compelled to follow constitutional standards and there was not a sufficient basis to justify stopping defendant," Blackburn wrote.

In other NFL news:

■ Houston signed quarterback B.J. Symons, who set 23 NCAA records his senior year at Texas Tech, his only season as a starter. He threw for 52 touchdowns and 5,833 yards last year.

■ Kansas City signed its top draft choice, second-round pick Junior Seau, a 6-foot-5, 336-pound defensive tackle from American Samoa.

■ The Buffalo Bills signed free agent linebacker Jason Gildon to a one-year deal worth a reported \$1.25 million.

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Stipples takes lead in Evian Masters

The Associated Press

EVIAN, France — Karen Stupples shot 6-under 66 Thursday to take a one-shot lead over Laura Davies and Annika Sorenstam after the second round of the Evian Masters.

Golf roundup

Stupples is 10-under after 36 holes following a round that included seven birdies and just one bogey.

"That was all-around enjoyable," said Stupples, who will be paired with Sorenstam on Friday. "But I must admit I'm a bit surprised to find myself leading."

Ten phenom Michelle Wie shot her second straight 1-under 71 and was tied for 26th.

Davies bogeyed four of the first five holes, before making birdies on the seventh and ninth holes.

"Frankly, I considered heading for the beer tent," she said of her early struggles.

Stupples has been on the tour for four seasons but didn't win her first title until the Welch's/Fry's Championship in Tucson, Ariz., in March.

Teen phenom Michelle Wie shot her second straight 1-under 71 and was tied for 26th.

"Today was the best and worst round of my life," said Wie, who had six birdies and five bogeys.

Wie confirmed she would not play the British Open next week. As an amateur, Wie is permitted six sponsor invitations and said she has already filled those.

Seoul American bowler wins YABA youth title

Stars and Stripes

Seoul American High School sophomore Victoria Wallace captured first place along with a \$2,000 scholarship in the 2004 Pepsi Youth Bowling Championships held Monday-Wednesday at Don Carter All-Star West Lanes in Dallas.

Three other Pacific bowlers, including eight-time Far East military zone champion Jo Bruce, had a rough time in the Pepsi and the Junior Golf championships, which were held July 10-16. The events are sponsored by the Young American Bowling Alliance.

Wallace, 15, edged Lisa Howard of Stoney Creek, Ontario, 187-184 in the championship match of the Pepsi Championship girls' handicap Division I.

The Pepsi Championships is the premier international handicap tournament for young bowlers. It attracted 194 competitors from the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and U.S. military zones overseas, competing for \$20,000 in scholarships.

Competing against 38 other bowlers in her division, Wallace led throughout, knocking down



Karen Stupples of Britain, in her sixth season on the LPGA Tour, won her first LPGA event this year.

Romero, three others lead Senior British Open

PORTTRUSH, Northern Ireland — Eduardo Romero made five birdies and shot 69 to share the first-round lead of the Senior British Open on Thursday.

Mastering a soft breeze on the Royal Portrush links, Romero, playing his first seniors tournament, shared the lead with American Don Pooley, John Chillas of Scotland and England's Jim Rhodes.

Defending champion Tom Watson carded a 75.

Pooley's 69 included two eagles. Rhodes, who began with a par and an eagle, collected 18 birdies of wine for an ace on the 189-yard par-3 sixth hole.

The four leaders had a stroke ahead of two Englishmen, Ian Mosley and Carl Mason. Mason lost in a playoff to Watson in last year's tournament at Turnberry.

Lonard, O'Hern in front in Irish Open

DROGHEDA, Ireland — Australian Nick O'Hern and Peter Lonard shot 8-under 64s Thursday and shared the first-round lead in the Irish Open at Ballytra. Darren Clarke and Padraig Harrington each shot 70.

DROGHEDA, Ireland — Australian Nick O'Hern and Peter Lonard shot 8-under 64s Thursday and shared the first-round lead in the Irish Open at Ballytra. Darren Clarke and Padraig Harrington each shot 70.

1,861 pins in eight qualifying games, a 232 average, and advancing to the match-play round of 16.

Wallace was two bowlers representing the Pacific Rim in the Pepsi tournament. Samuel Wilson, like Wallace a Seoul American student, competed in the boys' handicap Division I. He placed 18th in qualifying with 1,633 pins, missing the match-play round by seven pins.

In her fifth YABA Junior Golf tournament, Bruce, 12, knocked down 3,074 pins in the 18-game qualifying round and placed 135th out of 364 entrants.

Chris Baker, 13, also of Yong-sun and in his third Junior Golf appearance, racked up a pinfall of 3,048 and finished 607th out of 944 bowlers.

Wallace, Wilson, Bruce and Baker reached the Pepsi and Junior Golf tournaments through a qualifying process on Okinawa and at Yonaguni's bowling center.

YABA is a service-oriented sports membership organization for youth bowlers, ranging in age from pre-school to college. It provides more than \$3 million in scholarship money annually to its members.

S. Williams wins first match since losing Wimbledon final

The Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — Serena Williams defeated Eleni Daniilidou 6-1, 7-6 (3) Wednesday in the JP Morgan Chase Open in her first match since losing the Wimbledon final.

Williams was upset 2½ weeks ago by Maria Sharapova at the All England Club, where she was seeking her third consecutive Wimbledon title.

Sports briefs

In an effort to raise their rankings, Williams and older sister Venus are straying from their habit of not playing in the same non-Grand Slam tournament. They also are entered for next week's WTA tournament stop in Carlsbad.

Serena came into the Carson tournament — only her seventh of the year — ranked No. 16, her lowest spot since March 1999. She was No. 1 last August, when she had knee surgery.

Venus is No. 13 after moving up two spots since reaching last week's final at Stanford, where she lost in three sets to Lindsay Davenport. Venus lost in the second round at Wimbledon.

Davenport, seeded third, defeated Anne Kremer 7-5, 6-2 in just over an hour at the Home Depot Center. Kremer got into the main draw when another player was injured.

Other second-round winners Wednesday were: No. 5 Svetlana Kuznetsov, No. 6 Ai Sugiyama, No. 14 Chanda Rubin, No. 14 Arantxa Parraza and Jelena Kostanic, who surprised No. 9 Patty Schnyder, 6-1, 7-6 (5). Tina Piskin of Slovakia withdrew.

Seeded players have tough day in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS — It took a set, but Sebastian Grosjean finally did what several other seeded players could not do Wednesday in the second round of the RCA Championships — beat a lesser opponent.

Little progress in labor talks

From wire reports

NEW YORK — The NHL held another round of labor talks with the NHL Players' Association on Wednesday at the league's offices in Manhattan.

In the first formal negotiation since late May, the NHL continued to pursue a salary-cap system for the next collective-bargaining agreement. The union continued to reject the idea.

NHL executive vice president and chief legal officer Bill Daly afterward said the league presented the union with "six different concepts for a new system that would achieve our objectives in collective bargaining."

Daly said the concepts were each "fundamentally different" and that not all included a salary cap.

However, union director Ted Saskin disputed that claim.

"They did put forth six new different system concepts," Saskin said. "But unfortunately, each one of them begins and ends with a salary cap and that does not provide any basis for any progress."

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and union executive Bob Goodnow were present for the four-hour meeting.

The sides will meet Aug. 4 in Toronto; the current CBA expires Sept. 15. NHL training camps will not open if an agreement is not in place.

A lockout of the 2004-05 season seems likely. The NHL has been preparing for one since 1998, when it began collecting \$10 million per team to set up a \$300-million lockout fund to prop up financially weaker teams through a lengthy work stoppage.

Earlier this week, more than half of the NHL's employees were issued termination notices effective Sept. 15.

Bettman insists on a salary-cap system for the NHL, which he said, is expecting to carry a loss of "well over \$200 million" from the 2003-04 season. Twenty of the 30 teams are expected to claim a loss. The league wants to lower the percentage of leaguewide revenue that goes to player compensation, which is currently about 75 percent.

The union isn't against that idea, but won't agree

After dropping a 9-6 tiebreaker to Julien Jeanpierre in the first set, the third-seeded Grosjean took control to win the next two sets 6-2, 6-2 and move into the round of 16.

Fifth-seeded Marfy Fish dropped a 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4) decision to unseeded Gregory Carraz.

Top-seeded Andy Roddick's second-round match was postponed Wednesday night because of storms.

Defending champion Roddick, who had a first-round by, won the first set 6-4. Michael Kratochvil was leading the second set 5-2 when the match was postponed.

Eddie Robinson has Alzheimer's

GRAMBLING, La. — Eddie Robinson, college football's second-winnest coach, has Alzheimer's, his wife said.

"He's pretty bad," Doris Robinson said Wednesday. "He gets a little bit worse every day. He comes to the table for breakfast, but after that he wants to go right to bed."

In 57 years at Grambling, Robinson, 85, compiled a record of 408-165-15. His teams had only eight losing seasons and won 17 conference titles and nine national college basketball championships.

U.S. women beat Australia in soccer friendly

BLAINE, Minn. — Mia Hamm scored her 150th career goal as the United States defeated Australia 3-1 Wednesday in a pre-Olympic warm-up match.

Hamm, the highest-scoring female player in the world, scored in the 76th minute to put the United States ahead 2-1. She took a breakout pass from Heather O'Reilly, faked out a defender and beat keeper Cassandra Kell in the top right corner.

O'Reilly, the youngest player on the U.S. roster, also set up the final goal of the game, by Abby Wambach in the 81st minute.

to a fixed number that controls players' salaries. They are more amenable to a luxury-tax system, which the league will not embrace.

Red Wings re-sign LW Shanahan

DETROIT — Left wing Brendan Shanahan re-signed with the Detroit Red Wings on Thursday.

Shanahan, a 500-goal scorer and key contributor to Detroit's championship seasons in 1997, 1998 and 2002, signed for one year with a player option for an additional year. Terms were not disclosed.

Blackhawks pr D Cullimore from Lightning

CHICAGO — The Chicago Blackhawks signed former Tampa Bay Lightning defenseman Jassen Cullimore to a multiyear contract Thursday.

Cullimore, a five-agent player in 79 games last season for the Stanley Cup champions, with two goals and five assists and 58 penalty minutes.

"He is one of the biggest defensemen in the NHL. He is a solid veteran who logs a lot of minutes against the other team's top players," Blackhawks' assistant general manager Dale Tallon said.

Bruins re-sign veteran defenseman Gill

BOSTON — The Boston Bruins re-signed defenseman Hal Gill to a one-year contract on Wednesday, avoiding arbitration with the seven-year NHL veteran. The team did not disclose details of the deal.

The 6-foot-7, 250-pounder has missed just 14 games over the past six seasons. Last season the 29-year-old was second among Boston defensemen with a plus-16 rating.

Phoenix signs G Boucher to qualifying offer

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Coyotes signed goaltender Brian Boucher to a one-year qualifying offer Wednesday, avoiding arbitration.

Boucher, a five-year NHL veteran, led Coyotes goalies last season in games (40), wins (10) and shutouts (five). The 32-year-old played in consecutive games and was one of two modern-era records set by the 27-year-old. He also had a record scoreless stretch of 332 minutes, 1 second.

SPORTS



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Jays' Delgado takes a stand by sitting

First baseman protests war in Iraq by steadfastly refusing to stand for playing of 'God Bless America'

BY BEN WALKER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Perverted anti-war, Carlos Delgado quietly carried out his personal protest this season, refusing to stand when "God Bless America" was played at ballparks across the majors.

Most fans never saw him disappearing up the dugout tunnel or staying on the bench. And even teammates who disagreed with the Toronto slugger's political stance accepted his right to call the United States' invasion of Iraq "the stupidest war ever."

This week, though, a lot more people noticed.

The Blue Jays played at Yankee Stadium for the first time this year on Wednesday night. It's the only park in the majors where "God Bless America" has been played every game since the Sept. 11 attacks, a fiercely patriotic place where active military members are still admitted free.

"I don't think that will be received too well," Yankees manager Joe Torre predicted Wednesday before the opener of the two-game series. "Just when Bob Sheppard starts announcing 'God Bless America,' they start applauding. If you do call attention to that, it won't be popular."

It sure wasn't.

Delgado was greeted with scattered boos each time he batted — no telling whether that was related to his off-the-field opinions, or his status as an opposing star.

But there were brief chants of "USA! USA!" when he lined out in the bottom of the seventh. During a moment of silence before Kate

Smith's rendition of "God Bless America" was played during the seventh-inning stretch, derisive shouts were made in his direction.

True to form, Delgado was nowhere to be seen. He left the dugout when the last out was made in the top of the seventh, and headed to the clubhouse, and was removed from the game with the Blue Jays trailing by seven runs.

Delgado politely declined to elaborate before Wednesday night's game, though he said he stood by his previous comments. After the 10-3 loss, he deferred when asked about his remarks and the crowd reaction.

"No, I will not talk about it. Is that OK? Thank you," he said.

While big leaguers usually come to the top step of the dugout or onto the field to stand in silence during "God Bless America," Delgado does not make a public show of his stance.

In fact, until the first baseman spoke about the issue in early July to the Toronto Star, many people were not aware of how strongly he felt.

"It's a very terrible thing that happened on Sept. 11. It's (also) a terrible thing that happened in Afghanistan and Iraq," Delgado said at the time. "I just feel so sad for the families that lost relatives and loved ones in the war."

"But I think it's the stupidest war ever. Who are you fighting against? You're just getting ambushed now. We have more people dead now after the war than during the war," he said. "I don't support what they do. It's just stupid."

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Toronto Blue Jays' Carlos Delgado gets ready to play the sixth inning against the New York Yankees on Wednesday in New York. "I am not pro-war; I'm anti-war," the first baseman said. "I'm for peace."



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